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HE Government is planning to charter a fleet of refrig erated ships and cool-store contain-ers to provide extra storage for the carcasses of cattle slaughtered in the at-tempt to stamp out BSE.

The Ministry of Agricul-ture, Fisheries and Food admitted yesterday that it has contacted London-based ship brokers to assess availability and cost. Each ship would store up to 20,000 carcasses and it could cost more than £20,000 a month to store just one week's cull.

The move to provide emer-gency storage comes as farmers step up protests against what they claim is a policy of inaction over mad cow disease. Farmers staged a high profile demonstration this week outside the Conservative Party conference, and the National Farmers Union yesfarmers want this raised to 55,000 to eliminate the terday passed a motion of no confidence in Douglas Hogg, doomed cattle before the the Agriculture Minister. hardest winter months set in, Mr Hogg attempted to de-fuse the conflict by promising at the conference that the when it is estimated that the cost of feeding a cow will rise to £1.50 a day.

Government would spend more to relieve the backlog created by the cull of cattle provide additional cold storage to cope with carcasses which the rendering industry more than 30 months old. Maff's decision to look at the expensive and unconvenis unable to dispose of

tional idea of off-shore stor-A government spokesage follows a series of protests woman said conventional by farmers increasingly cold storage capacity would probably soon be exhausted ingry at having to pay to keep and negotiations were taking condemned livestock

place which could mean ships, able to cope with up to 20,000 dead animals, would be It is estimated that about 22,000 cattle are being slaugh-tered each week in the over 30-month scheme (OTMS), but chartered.

It was not yet clear how many vessels would have to be hired, so the Government could not calculate what the likely cost would be. But the cold-store container ships would be chartered on the The farmers' lobby has open market, which, accord pressured the Government to ing to shipping market sources, could cost over £6,500

a month each. Ships full of yellow-dyed would float in British

ports linked to land by mains electricity supply, until there was sufficient capacity in the List, reported that there were plenty of Russian refrigerated vessels available for charter rendering industry to inciner Maff is also understood to at reasonable rates.

be looking at hiring large con-tainers which could be kept in container ports. Ships and containers are considered to have a security advantage over conventional cold stores because they are seen as less vulnerable to protest groups of farmers and animal welfare

organisations. Although the Government which estimates that reimbursing farmers for slaughtered cattle will cost more than £2.5 billion, would not comment on the availability

ate the meat.

of suitable ships, the daily cleared." The NFU is also shipping newspaper, Lloyd's pressing for the Government (£1.25).

A spokesman for the National Farmers' Union said any attempt to increase the availability of cold storage to reduce the backlog of doomed cattle would be welcome.

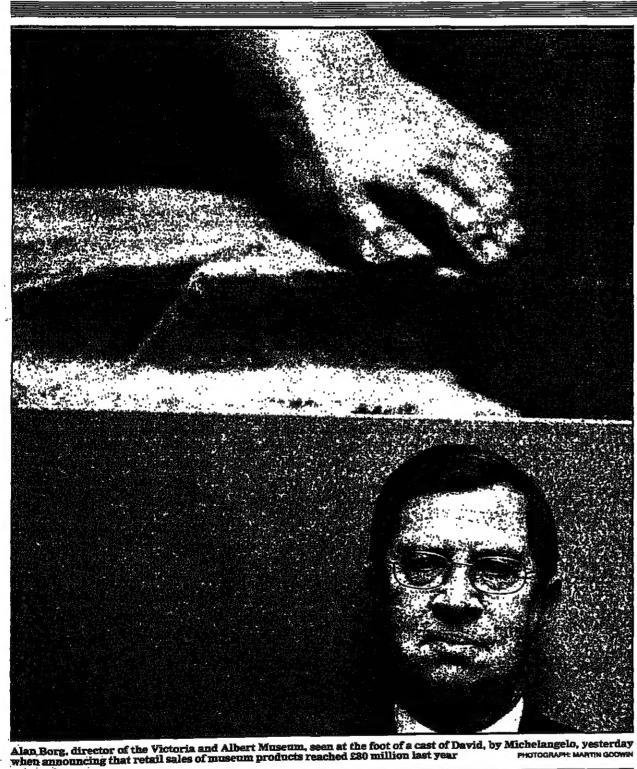
"If the Government can raise the slaughter rate to 55,000 a week that would be brilliant," the NFU said. "Our members just want to get the backlog out of the way. We cannot adhere to the Florence agreement on a selective cull of cattle until the backlog of over-30-month-old cattle is

to restore the recent cut in OTMS compensation from 0.9 ecu per kilogram to 1 ecu The Florence meeting of

European Union states pre-dicted a selective cull of about 125.000 head of cattle in an attempt to remove BSE from British herds and lift the worldwide ban on exports. That is on top of the 600,000 animals aged more than 30 months which have been slaughtered in the five months since the BSE-elimi

nation programme was intro-duced. The Government reckons 400.000 cattle are





Gold handcuffs deal stuns City

Patrick Donova

NE of the most lavish so-called 'golden hand cuffs" packages in the history of City banking will give 120 NatWest investment bankers the hance to earn an average of £2 million each, it emerged lest night.

The glittering incentive offer, aimed at buying the staff's loyalty for at least three years, is at the heart of were "golden handcuffs" for senior staff, designed to enyesterday's announcement that NatWest is to take over sure that high fliers remain

ear. The bank has recently signed up the former foreign Bank prizes ecretary, Douglas Hurd, as a 'roving ambassador'' on £250,000 for the equivalent of

Deutsche Morgan Grentwo-day working week. The chief executive of fell: Maurice Thompson and Michael Cohrs, \$7 million NatWest Markets, Martin each over two years Owen, yesterday declined to spell out any financial details 🗆 Tokai Bank: Trader Ka-

veh Alamouti: Salary of £2.36 about the take-over, admitmillion, down from nearly £15 ting the terms were "very sensitive". He said he was not million last year Mercury Asset Manage-ment: Highest paid woman in the City; Fund manager Carol able to talk publicly about the value of the deal because of "confidentiality clauses". But he conceded that there

between 10,000 and 15,000 staff throughout its branch net-work over the next three years. The majority of these staff earn between £10,000 and £15.000." These "golden handcuff"

terms, have been given to the top 40 staff at J.O. Hambro Magan. As part of the merger terms, a further 80 corporate financiers at NatWest have had their contracts rewritten

to give them similar terms. Combined with NatWest's existing Wall Street opera-Galley, £210,000 salary, plus tions, the deal will make the bank the biggest British force in mergers and acquisitions, handling take-over deals £500.000 bonu.s plus £400.000 deferred bonus 🗆 Salomon Brothers: Two orth more than £52 Duuc The deal represents a huge coup for 50-year-old George Magan who founded J.O Hambro Magan just eight years ago. He is to take over the chairmanship of the en-A spokeswoman for the larged investment banking banking union, Bifu, said: operation and is expected to get by far the largest deal. tribution of money to a select (few. The NatWest is cutting City notebook, page 11

specialist financier J.O. Ham-bro Magan. The deal is estiin place after takeover of the eight-year-old banking "boutique" which has handled everything from the mated at around £150 million. NatWest pays its ordinary high street clerical staff besale of Fisons to the £2.9 tween £10,000 and £13,000. It billion merger of Lord Hol-has made redundant 20,000 lick's MAI with the Express newspaper group, United. Unions expressed dismay at staff in the last five years. The bank has been forced to

lock in key executives with the payment of huge sums to promises of enormous pay select employees when tens of packets because of competi- thousands of NatWest staff promises of enormous pay packets because of competi-tion from rivals. faced redundancy. Such is the shortage of top bankers to handle the current Rory Murphy of the NatWest Staff Association surge in international take over and acquisition activity, competition has driven sala-

said: "Staff could go beserk. It's a question of morality. You can't have one rule for ries for the most senior direc-tors to well over £10 million a for the ordinary retail bank".

Mother jailed for stopping violent father seeing child

Clare Longrigg and Alex Bellos

AMOTHER was jailed for refusing to comply with a court order allowing her violent former partner to have contact with their daughter. Judge William Poulton at Canterbury crown court ruled that it would be far more harmful for the child to grow up without a relation-ship with her lather than to see her mother go to prison. Dawn Austin, aged 30, was jailed for six weeks for contempt of court over an order

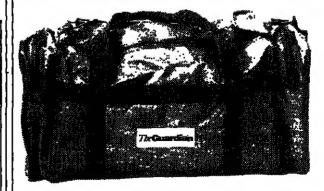
requiring the child to meet Lee Norton, who has a history of serious violence against Dawn Austin: partner knocked her teeth out

her. She was last night in solicitor, said: "She is incred Holloway prison and her two ibly distressed, but deterchildren were in foster care. She was granted leave to appeal. The case will be heard mined to go to prison rather than agree to allow contact between her child and its at the High Court in London father. We are very concerned Ms Austin is believed to be that issues relating to child the first woman jailed for welfare are being dealt with refusing access to a violent by imprisonment." man, although a woman was jailed last year for denying ac-

Lucy Anderson, of the legal advice and policy group Rights of Women, said: "We Turn to page 3, column 4

media analysts recently signed up at £500,000 apiece Top of the shop: George Soros, \$1.5 billion last year "We are concerned at the dis-

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'Dear diary, It is fun being PM!' lin in a very large plane. I for modern speech-making, suggested he had brought the deficit with him" — comes close enough to raise doubts Nonald Reagan", with wistful the and "the awful, cheating, glass autocue patented by close enough to raise doubts Nonald Reagan", with wistful the and the avful of the state of t

FO NE of the most en-joyable parts of being Prime Min-ister," John Major confides in the Spectator today, "is hold-ing receptions at No. 10 or Chequers." He goes on to de-chequers." He goes on to de-Chequers." He goes on to de-scribe some with something

David McKle

scribe some with something like schoolboy glee. Mr Major — or someone employing his byline — is writing the magazine's weekly Diary. The result is less obviously Pooteresque than Private Eye's spoof. The Secret Diary of John Major, aged 47%. Yet some of it — "Mr Prodi, the Italian prime minister, had flown into Dub-

lead some to question the piece's authenticity. At the Downing Street reception, the author claims, several sports-men had hairstyles "which would have dazzled the dreadlocked Rudd Gullit", Gullit is the manager and star per-former of the team Mr Major supports - Chelsea. Analysts were quick to point out last night that Gullit's first name

Clarke routs the doubters,

cess to an alcoholic. Sarah Harman, Ms Austin's

today.

2 NEWS

Conference sketch

Major plans bold assault on Blair to consolidate new-found unity after Heseltine helps scatter right

Clarke routs the doubters

Virtuoso Ken plays a blinder



Simon Hoggart

HE Tory Conference rose yesterday to acclaim its latest and most improbable darling: the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke.

It was an astonishing performance which had pro-Euro pean Cabinet ministers hugging themselves with delight and the sceptics skulking in the shadows, scowling in

annoyance. The triumph was all the more remarkable because he achieved it with a soleron promise not to cut taxes - at least not yet. His pledge, combined with Mr Clarke's earlier description of government policy on a single currency as "pathetic", had made us all ume that he would be given a frigid welcome.

In earlier years, he probably would. In the past, Mr Clarke has barely tried to conceal his contempt for the delegates before him, galloping through his speech as if some-one had told him that the pubs were about to shut.

Yesterday he looked as if he actually cared what they thought. It may have been an act, but it was a fine thespian display. The conference, which yearns to be loved by its asters, did the equivalent of leaping up, planting its wet paws on Mr Clarke's tummy, and licking his face. The stomping ovation went on for several minutes.

It is a sound Mr Clarke has rarely, if ever, heard. The suc-cess of the speech could be measured by the fact that a colleague's bleeper pinged twice with Labour rebuttals before the Chancellor had even sat down.

By contrast, Michael Portillo's speech was flat and uninspired. To be fair, the Defence Secretary had a tough act to follow — himself. His speech last year, full of vainglorious bragging about weapons systems and the SAS, was widely ridiculed and caused danger-

ous goose pimples among many of the MPs who will vote for the next leader. It was Michael Heseltine ho was said by Sir Julian Critchley to know where to find the clitoris of the Conse vative Party. Mr Portillo used to go straight for the G-spot. Yesterday it was more "not tonight dear. I have a

Michael White Political Editor

Instead of boasting about how cruise missiles could drop down an enemy's chim-ney, he swanked about the kindergartens our troops have built in Bosnia. Yes, the enemy will know all about it when they get a Tonka toy dropped with unerring precision down the toilet. Mr Portfilo has, unnervingly, begun to sound slightly like Tony Blair. The voice is acquiring the same highpitched earnestness and, as with the Labour leader, a deadly virus is wiping out his /erb

Many of the verb-free phrases could have been dropped neatly into Mr Blair's speech last week: "the dignity of choice"; "dynamic and competitive"; "a real sense of renewal"; "true grit, not soft 'asoa

As all our politicians begin to sound alike, their personal attacks on each other grow meaner. To listen to Mr Portillo, you'd imagine that Mr Blair was little better than a communist mole who, on being elected, will hang the last royal mistress with the guts of the last kulak. It is, as Mr Major would say, a bit rich for a former pacifist like Michael Portillo to accuse other people of changing their minds.

In the afternoon we had a chance to see that grand old trouper. Michael Heseltine, possibly for the last time in this role. Before his attack on Sir James Goldsmith he craft lly took credit for the recent success of London Fashion Week, and indeed there is a resemblance between a fash-ion show and the party conference.

The same dementedly futur istic set. Models, clearly on dangerous life-threatening diets, strut and preen before an admiring audience. They look ravishing but when asked to speak, can only mouth mean-ingless platitudes about "meeting people" and " ing for world peace".

Fleet St allies, the Tory campaign is now certain to be fought on Mr Major's terms, his rivals were grudgingly OHN Major will today lay claim to an

conceding last night. unprecedented fifth Labour's massive lead in Tory term by telling voters that 150 years of democratic politics have the opinion polls could be whittled away by the return of the feel-good factor and a defence of the Union, minis-ters told their activists, shown Britain that only the ervatives can be relied on to deliver ever-wider "op-portunites for all". though not if they "feed the voracious appetite of a media anxious to headline any His bold assault on Tony Blair's rival vision of an "Age phrase, any whisper that of Achievement" is designed to consolidate the surge of unity which took hold of his harms our party," Mr Hesel tine warned them. But it was Mr Clarke's day warring party at its Bourne-mouth conference yesterday to carry off the crown for one

of the hardest speeches of his career before an audience which — until yesterday when Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine joined forces to scatter the right — and taunt Sir James Goldsmith. Chance' Despite months of backstab-

from John Redwood and his | rightwing critics no concessions on budget tax cuts or the European single currency timetable, Mr Clarke won a 4¹/-minute standing ovation, luring which Mr Major pointedly intervened to raise his Chancellor's arm in triumph. It was capped by a Hesel-tine rampage which savaged the Labour Party but also challenged the arch Eurosceptic, Goldmsith, as the man whose Referendum Party could help elect a pro-Euro-

In a taunt which also embraced the exiled Thatcherite defector, Lord McAlpine, the Deputy Prime Minister plained that they would not have to suffer the quences

"As you commute between the luxury of your hacienda in Mexico, your chateau in France and your palazzo in ember

rest of us. We would have to stay here. Though some activists and candidates were muttering ast night about key debate determined to spread oppor over Europe being supress tunity in the same spirit as Margaret Thatcher and, a most closet-Goldsmithites in the conference hall took it on the chin.

If that was not enough to boost Mr Major's battered morale, Michael Portillo, whose first "Who Dares Wins" speech as Defence Sec-retary scandalised colleagues in 1995, gave a muted perfor-mance which loyally appealed for "three extra policies. unity. uniuty and unity" to vin the coming election.

Mr Major was taking no chances as he finished this morning's text. Unlike his deputy - who accused Mr Blair of lacking "the slightest shred of intergrity" over his children's schooling — the Prime Minister will not go for

the Labour leader's jugular in dignity" systematic way. What he will do is present his own "Honest John" cre dentials as a self-made man

order.

It fell to Mr Heseltine to mock Labour's Blackpool conference. Five days, five soundhites

The Guardian Friday October 11 1996

and they think they are fit to govern for five years. No facts, no details; no costs century earlier, Disraeli had done. "It runs in the blood-Soundbites substituted for substance. Public relations stream of the party," in con masquerading as public conhast to Labour's persistent cern. Dream music obstruction to reform. mare prospects.

"What a transformation. Old Labour, the bariny army. throughout the 1980s, he plans to say. He will also unveil a new New Labour, the snarmy army," said Mr Heseltine who mocked the highly-successful Blackpool gathering as "a breath of fresh air fer the initiative on health to com-plete the five key points which his cabinet team have underlined in Bournemouth as the focus of the coming ses-

chattering classes". Mr Major will contrast his "feet on the ground" with sion of Parliament and the election campaign: law and an educational Labour's "head in the air"."

"agenda for aspirers"; small government and lower taxes; Tories in Bourn and the welfare-to-work pack age presented as "dole to Notabook, page 11

An extract from The Rector's The sitting room at Loxford Rectory was a surprise to Daniel Byrne. It had been a surprise to Loxford for 10 years, previously accustomed, as rural communities are, to modesty and neatness in the pastoral dwelling-house. It contained the Knole sofa on which St Agatha had reclined in West Kensing ton (too large for Laura's tiny flat), several lowering pieces of reproduction Jacobean farniture donated by Kitty ("Your father loved if but I can't bear it. it's so threatening"), hundreds of books on shelves made by Peter out of bricks and planks and the unmistakable overlying detritus of family life.

Anna, making room for Daniel on the sofa, moved a pile of sheet music, several seed catalogues, a jersey of Luke's and Flora's latest piece of chain stitch in which a huge needle to have slumped, as time's glittered. gone on."

JOANNA **FROLLOPE** THE RECTOR'S WIFE "How very nice," said

Daniel, sitting down. He looked around him. "How comfortable. Tidiness makes me nervous." "When Peter married me, was tidy," Anna said, recalling her cardigans with a sudden pang; those emblems of an imagined and ordered fature. "I seem

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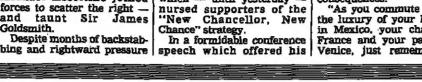
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Joanna Trollope to head children's reading drive

pean Blair government.

Review

The grey man is saved for Labour

David McKie

Labour Party Political Broadcast

OHN MAJOR came out of retirement last night in a shameless bid to make today's closing proceedings at the Conservative Party Conference look entirely ridiculous.

John Major, latex version, that is. The Prime Minister's Spitting Image, along with those of Kenneth Clarke, Michael Howard, John Gummer and Humphrey the Downing Street cat, were rescued from the dustbin of history to which they had been con-signed when the programme breathed its last, and pressed into service for what was early designed as the whack lest party political broadcast yet. On behalf of Labour.

It began with the Prime Minister, grey as a North Atlantic dawn, grey nightcap on head, shape which one took to be Norma inert beside him, and Humphrey in anxious atten-dance, racking his brains for something to say to the nation that wouldn't be laughed at. A bright idea (sort of) struck. Why not go back to promises made before the last election? Humphrey looked apprehen-sive. The shape we've agreed was Norma looked unawake

Cut to dream sequence: the battle of Waterloo: Major and Clark in tricorn hats (they're on the losing side — geddit?) with a gun labelled "for sale recalling their (failed) plans to cut taxes. Then Major and Howard, rattling the bars as the tumbril bears them towards the guillotine, recall-ing their plans to cut crime. "Every day people are having their hard-earned money stolen by uncaring thieves." Howard exclaims, "But surely, that's our job, Michael," says Major. Cut again to an ocean liner.

It's sinking. In case you hadn' already guessed, a lifebuoy bears the legend "Titanic". Major now cowers behind a huge grey beard. "Where are the lifebelts?" he wheezes. "We've sold them off!" cries Clarke, heading for the gangplank. So much for the British economy. Then housing. Now we're in Rome, which, needles to say, is burning. Major is fiddling: Gummer reclines in a toga. Nothing there either. Cut to education: Major (in a tin hat labelled PM) and Gillian Shephard (in a tin hat labelled PM) are entrenched in a war room: the celling

keeps falling in. Tax, housing, the economy, education, crime — surely, moans Major, there must be one pledge be can safely recall Motorway cones perhaps? Then he is back in be Humphrey the cat is making a bolt for the door. It opens. A

Come back to Labour. Makes a change, certainly. Wonderful puppets, as always, even if the script is hardly a work of transcending subtlety But zany enough at least to have kept a useful contingent of target voters watching. And don't discount the importance of any subliminal messages scattered through the proceedings. Major, for

grinning Blaur greets him. Enough is enough, he says.

instance, was shown as lefthanded. In fact, he writes with his right. A shameless pitch, one assumes, for the nation's majority right-hander vote.

air of the book worm: the novelist Joanna Trollope at home

Aga-saga weaver summoned to find book worms in young couch potatoes

Sarah Boseley

Mrs Bottomley muses over the possibilities. An incentive may be offered to 11-to 16-NE of the country's year-olds to borrow good most popular but most belittled writers, Jobooks from libraries -anna Trollope, author of the unkindly christened Agastrate that they had read and sagas, has been chosen by the Heritage Secretary, Virginia understood the books on their return. Testing may involve a Bottomley, to chair a panel to short comprehensive quespromote children's reading. tionnaire, certified by a responsible adult." It all sounds like good, clean fun. Ms Trollope's elevation burst without warning on the Tory party conference in had nothing against Bournemouth yesterday. The novelist will spearhead the British television as such, she told the conference. It was wonderful — as long as it was free from filth. But the ne-glected books were "windows fight against youthful couchpotatoes who sit, square-eved and empty-headed, in front of the box every evening. The of wonder through which panel she will chair is to plan children can pass into other a national Reading Challenge worlds". Books and television should be complementary.

"Let's set ourselves a tar-get." she said. "Just one night The project was in its early stages, the department conceded. There are those who may wonder if the idea was week at least, turn off the box and bring out the books." Exactly which books is a while Mrs Bottomley was scribbling the early jot moot point. In her letter to Ms tings for her conference Trollope, Mrs Bottomley men-speech. In a letter to Ms Trol-tions "a national list", which lope, dated only yesterday, the panel may compile. Past the heir of the sort of tradi-

Reading list Joanna Trollope's favourite authors Past:

 George Eliot Henry Fielding Anthony Trollope Present: 🗆 Jane Gardam Rose Macaulay

🗆 Amy Tan John Irving

attempts to compile lists of reat and good literature for children have provoked an outcry from authors, teachers and readers, as traditionalists have denounced the outrageous modern literature and modernists have slammed the

fusty classics. Ms Trollope, whose best selling novels include The Rector's Wife and The Choir,

Sara Keays takes battle over Parkinson daughter to Europe

Cecil Parkinson, the then

Trade and Industry Secre-tary, and his former secre-

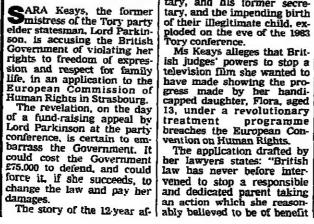
Clare Dyer Legal Correspondent

We had sex, says accused

Stuart Millar

THE lorry driver who de-nies murdering French student Celine Figard told a court yesterday that they had sex in his cab after he asked her for a Christmas kiss in return for a lift. Ms Figard, aged 19, disap-peared as she hitch-hiked to a Hampshire hotel last Christmas. A motorist found her body in undergrowth near

Worcester on December 29 10 days after she was last seen leaving a service station on the M4 in Berkshire in the accused's white Mercedes lorry. Stuart Morgan, aged 37, of Poole, Dorset, told the jury during more than two hours in the witness box, that Ms Figard approached bim for a lift to Fordingbridge, Hamp shire, at Chieveley services. He explained he was heading for Southampton but she ac damages cepted a lift anyway.



fair between the married | to her child and which would have been of benefit to the public." The film could not be made without High Court consent

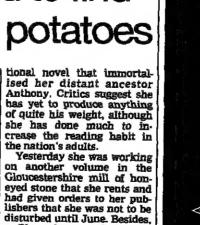
because of injunctions ban-ning publicity obtained by Lord Parkinson, Flora's father, and the Official Solicitor Lord Parkinson applied for

the first injunction to stop media coverage of child sup-port proceedings. Ms Keays the first injunctio accepted advice that she should join in the application,

without realising it could stop all future public discussion about Flora's upbringing. A second injunction stops Ms Keays "disclosing any matter relating to the educa-tion, maintenance or finan tion, maintenance or finan-cial circumstances" of her of her ably believed to be of benefit | child until she reaches 18.

A High Court judge, Mr Justice Cazalet, refused to lift the injunction to allow the TV programme because he feared this would lead to a "torrent" of "lurid and sensational" tabloid reports. Three Appeal Court judges ruled that the court's power to stop publicity in the circumstances was "in theory limitless".

Her application describes the judges as "elderly males of an élite class, who were un-likely to have had any personal experience of raising children with handicaps like Flora and who were apparently ill-disposed towards single mothers. They were suspicious of and antipathetic to the 'tabloid' press, which the overwhelming majority of British citizens

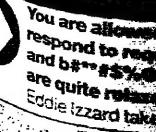


a Bloomsbury spokesperson added: "The role is so new to her that she doesn't have any-thing to say yet." Ms Trollope has previously made known her support for libraries, however. Last October she signed a letter to the Guardian, with Bob Hoskins, Joan Bakewell, Alan Ayck-bourn, Gail Rebuck and Nicholas Parsons, complaining that the service was being blighted by funding cuts and demanding "a visionary pol-icy" for libraries. Now she is on the inside, perhaps she can make something happen.



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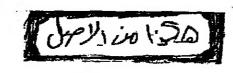
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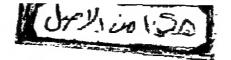
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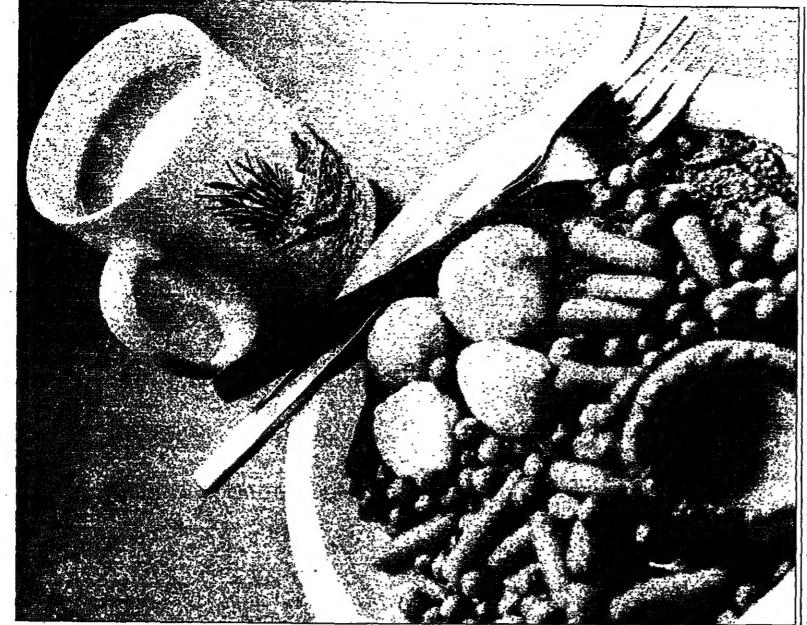
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NEWS 3



Even Britons do not like British food, a survey finds. Apart from our beef, that is --- BSE or no BSE

Food, glorious food . . . Roast dinner washed

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

T IS depressing but true: the British drink tes with meals, scoff endless sandwiches, and refuse to let food is the best. BSE scare them off over-done Sunday roast beer. To make matters worse; they don't even like their national diet very much. By comparison, 95 per cent of French people, 93 per cent of Italians, 88 per cent of Spanish, 74 per cent of Germans, 67 per cent of

eight countries, but British | to Americans at eating | during June and July. self-respect has been eroded by years of fry-ups, baked beans and stodgy puddings: only 32 per cent of Britons believe British snacks, and sandwiches are to Britons what hamburg-ers are to folk across the glant pond. Asked to list food they ate

Eating in

every day, 47 per cent of Britons ticked "saud-wiches/hamburgers".

against 38 per cent of Americans and only 4 per could be that we also tend

Asked whether, as a result of revelations about BSE, they had reduced their beel consumption, 59 per cent of Britons said they had not a score matching countries unaffected by the scare. One reason for the lack of

is standard British fare, though only a third of Britons rate it highly

On weekdays

77

hour 5 minutes per meal against 1 hour 12). Dominique Mine, direc-tor in France of the British food promotion body, Food From Britain, said: "Brit-ain is very advanced in pre-prepared dinners and I think the trends in Britain may be duplicated in other European countries."

kitchen as the French (1

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SULITO

ter. General Magnus Malan, and other retired security force commanders appeared to be crumbling yesterday when the judge labelled the key state witness a liar. The survey, published ahead of the Sial fair — a four-day binge for the world's food industries which begins in Paris on October 20 — also looked at socio-economic influences on the digestive tract.

In Britain, high earners and single people are the least likely to have break-fast. The over-55s and the least well-off spend the longest over breakfast.

sonally prepared a week-day evening meal, 92 per cent of women said they did, but only 52 per cent of men. Women also spent longer preparing food.

no

Judge Jan Hugo acquitted six of the 16 defendants at the Supreme Court in Durban, on the first day of a judgment which he is expected to complete today. The six were al-leged to be hit men trained by the South African army.

Asked whether they per-

If Gen Malan and the offi-cers accused with him are also cleared it will be a big setback for the African National Congress government and Archbishop Desmond Tutu's Truth Commis-

behind

David Beresford In Johannesburg

HE murder prosecution against South Africa's former defence minis-

Investors warned

Suspicion surrounds super-generous interest rates

over Internet bank

an Atkine

HE Bank of England yesterday said it may try to pull the plug on an Internet bank ased in the Caribbean that offers super-generous interest rates to British customers. Although unable to ban the grandly-named European Union Bank from advertising over the international computer system, the Bank may take action if its advertise-ments fail to meet UK standards.

European Union Bank was, until this summer, still claiming the Tory peer, Lord Man-Lord Mancroft: quit offshore bank in May croft, the 39-year-old former neroin addict turned medicalshould the bank fail would be

charity patron, as its chair-man, even though he an-nounced in May he had left the organisation. It also as insecure whether they sent their money over the net or claims to be the first offshore bank on the net. by traditional post or wire-transfer methods.

A Bank source said yester-day that its main concern was Yesterday the Bank of Eng-land warned all British to ensure people did not get ripped off. With EUB offering rates of 2.75 per cent on curpeople that deposits with EUB - which is based in Antigua, one of the most loosely-regu-lated territories in the world were not covered by the UK rent-account deposits of £1,000 — against just 0.3 per cent on offer from Barclays deposit-protection scheme. EUB has advertised for

and 0.2 per cent from Midland — the Bank of England wants people to send money over the internet. It claims to employ to avoid a repeat of the 1988 ultra-secure anti-hacking technology, although the legal position of British customers



British Government ought to have protected them. Forestalling such an out-come this time, a Bank source said that "caveat emptor has to bite". The source added that the Bank retained powers over advertisements for offshore bank accounts, even though it had no power to regulate deposits taken outside the UK, and would consider moving against any Internet provider carrying unlawful promotions for EUB.

But the Bank said there was no way to protect someone de-termined to invest in EUB.

The Inland Revenue confirmed it was monitoring services offered by Internethased companies such as EUB for the setting up of offshore tax-haven companies. The possibility of taxable funds

disappearing into uncracka-ble coded computer accounts was a real danger. EUB has no connection

with the European Union in Brussels and no client in Britain has complained to the UK authorities. The Bank said yesterday's warning was a Among recent EUB public-

ity on the Internet is a statement that "clients may estab-lish an international business corporation on-line through European Union Bank, taking full advantage of Antigua's favourable tax laws"

Barlow Clowes affair, in which offshore investors lost their money and claimed the

and early 1990s.

iren, were killed.

hit squad who underwent combat training at a secret military camp in Namibia. The state alleged that the tar-

get was a suspected ANC ac-tivist — who was not killed.

The crucial witness for the prosecution was a military of-

ficer, Captain J.P. Opperman,

who claimed he was the com-mander of the hit squad.

Judge Hugo said that Capt

Massacre trial founders

sion in their attempts to unness in certain respects and cover the role of the military in the "dirty war" of the 1980s

unreliable in others". The judge also noted that the state had conceded the un-The 16 accused - including reliability of a second imporfour retired generals - faced tant prosecution witness, a former military intelligence charges of murder, attempted murder and conspiracy to murder in the KwaMakutha agent, Andre Cloete. He said the evidence of all three state witnesses had to be apmassacre in Natal on January 21 1987, in which 13 civilians, proached with caution, be-cause they were accomplices. There were also indications most of them women and chil-The massacre was alleged to have been carried out by a

they had been coached. The judge said the poor planning and execution of the attack supported the defance contention that it was not an authorised military operation, but a "frolic". The large quantity of weapons used contradicted Capt Opperman's claim that the target was one man. "It seems likely that Opperman must have had back-ing from somewhere," he said. "The question is from Opperman was "a lying wit- where and from whom.

Other countries in Americans and Japanese, and 50 per cent of Brazil-ians think their national Europe cannot praise their national dishes highly enough, according to a new cuisine is the best. survey of eating habits in

cent of French people. to spend the shortest time Mad cow or no mad cow. in the kitchen — 38 minutes Britons are still fiercely on weekdays.

That changes at week-ends, with Britons spendloyal to British beef accord Britons are second only questioned 6.500 people ing almost as long in the

Baseball hero, 12. lends hand to Yankees on the way to the World Series

lan Katz In New York

AWEEK ago Jeffrey Maier Awas another 12-year-old New York kid, praying for his beloved Yankees to reach the World Series. Yesterday he was being hailed as the hero of one of the biggest games of the baseball season. And the villain.

The schoolboy guaranteed himself a place in baseball history when he reached over a boundary wall at Yankee Stadium and grabbed a ball during a championship game between the home team and the Baltimore Orioles.

The ball, hit by a Yankees player, had been heading into the catcher's mitt of a Balti-more fielder. Instead the boy deflected it into the stands. converting it into a home run for the New York team.

The Yankees, who had been trailing by one rim, went on to win the game in overtime, moving a step closer to a place in the World Series.

sterday the boy was feted es a hero by a city which craves a return to the glory days of Babe Ruth and Joe Di Maggio. "If he ran for mayor of New

York this morning former mayor Ed Koch and I would both be in trouble," said





ington, which has adopted the nearby Orioles since it lost its own baseball team. Furious Orioles fans insisted the Bal-television. By then, the result

the rounds of the morning TV shows sporting a Yankees uniform and beaming from ear to appeared in mid-air." Tarasco ear. His only regret was that he had not managed to hang

ornotes tans master the Bal-timore player. Tony Tarasco, would have caught the ball if the boy had not interfered. "To me it was like a magic trick because the ball just diswas final. Jeffrey was yesterday doing

been disallowed but the near-been disallowed but the near-

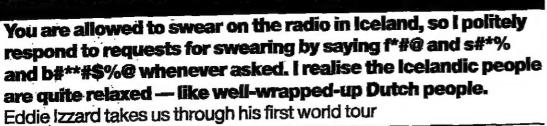
Mother jailed for denving father access to their child

continued from page 1 are appalled. We don't think that in a situation where there is a violent man involved, contact should be presumed to be in the interests of the child."

Julie Bindel, of the National Conference on Violence, Abuse and Women's Citizenship, added: "When all too often men who commit serious acts of violence against women and children are not apprehended or im-prisoned, to put this mother in custody when she is only trying to protect herself is an outrage.

A formight ago Ms Austin, from Canterbury, was given a six week suspended prison sentence for failing to comply with the contact order. She was given another chance to take her four-year-old daugh-ter to Mr Norton but refused. During their six year relationship Ms Austin has alleged that Mr Norton has knocked out her front teeth, and tried to throw her off a

first floor balcony. Mr Norton has also served time in prison for domestic violence, after he broke his former wife's jaw in three places. But he said before yes terday's hearing : "I am not in the slightest bit interested in getting at Dawn. I just want to see my daughter. I miss her very much and the longer this goes on, the more difficult it will be to re-establish our relationship."



Friday Review cover story

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4 BRITAIN

News in brief

Intended victim wounded twice in 'bloody feud' before attacker was shot by marksmen, court told

Another victim of new CJD variant

A 33-YEAR-OLD London woman is the latest victim of the new variant of Creuzleidt Jacob Disease, which some scientists believe may have been passed to humans as a result of the BSE epidemic. The woman, a mother of two whose name has not been released, is said to be deteriorating rapidly after six months of illne

Like the 13 other victims of the new variant, confirmed by the government's CJD surveillance unit in Edinburgh, symptoms began with mood changes, forgetfulness, tremors of the limbs and ultimately loss of balance. When the emergence of the new strain was announced by the Government in March, it led to the beef and cattle crisis.

A family member said yesterday: "We are obviously very concerned about the possibility of the disease being passed in some way to her two children, but doctors have told us that there is no evidence that this happens. However, no one has been able to explain to us how she could have caught the se." — Alan Watkins

'Bizarre sex act' death

A PRIMARY school headmaster died during a bizarte sex act, an inquest at Basigstoke, Hampshire, heard yesterday. Stephen Cal-vert, 41, was found dressed in women's clothing and hanging from a tree in a car park at Liphook, Hampshire.

North East Hampshire coroner, Andrew Bradley, was told by Mr Calvert's wife Susan that about a year ago she suspected her husband of using women's make-up. The father of four from Liphook had had treatment for depression and stress arising from his job as a primary school headmaster in Midhurst, Sussex Mr dley said Mr Calvert had suffered an unfortunate "quirk of fate" by tying a ligature around his neck in order to gain gratification. The cause of death was given as suspension and the coroner recorded a verdict of misadventure.

'Show-off' killer driver jailed

A DRIVER who killed three people while showing off in his sports car, and then fled the scene, was jalled for eight years at the High Court in Stirling yesterday. Fraser McDowall, 36, was found guilty of the culpable homicide of pensioners Thomas and Jean McCallum and Sheena Young, 35. In a high speed, early morning crash last May which also left Mrs Young's 17-year-old son Jamie brain-damaged. The court heard that McDowall, an electrician from West Lothian, had been trying to impress two female passengers with the speed of his turbo-charged Toyota Supra when he collided with the rear of the McCallums' vehicle, shunting it across a road into the path of Mrs Young's car. Witnesses described how McDowall slammed down his loosened bonnet then drove away from the crash scene, although the McCallums' car had burst into flames. — Briend Clouston

Workmen die in sewer

HEALTH and safety inspectors were investigating last night after two council workmen died at a sewage pumping station near Swansea after collapsing when they were overcome by fumes in an underground inspection chamber. More than 20 rescuers at the scene including police officers, paramedics and firefighters were later treated in hospital for breathing difficulties and sore throats. Workmates from Neath Port Talbot borough council had tried to reach the two unconscious men but were themselves affected by gas. Police are not naming the victims until family members have been told.

Call to ban council sunbeds

A BAN on sunbeds at council-run leisure centres was urged yesterday by a skin expert. Jonathan Norris, consultant dermatol ogist at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, said in a letter to the British Medical Journal that there was increasing evidence that Ultraviolet A rays used by sunbeds promoted skin cancer ---especially the most dangerous melanoma form. He added: "Councils may argue they are catering for a demand for sunbeds by the public, but this demand is led by ignorance and should be

Duncan Campbell Crime Corresponde

NDERCOVER police marksme shot a hitman just as he was about to complete a contract killing, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

The officer in charge of the operation had had to strike a delicate balance between the gathering of evidence and the saving of life, the court was

The shootings in south Lon-don on September 20 last year were the result of a "long standing and bloody feud" Nigel Sweeney, prosecuting, told the court. A plan bearing "all the hallmarks of a contract killing" had been de-vised, and at one stage it was possible that three members of a south London family would be shot at the same Michael Boyle, aged 48, from Dublin, had shot Anthony Brindle three times

told.

1/2

Soumas Milne Labour Editor

outside his home in Rotherhithe, and was about to finish him off when two police officers opened fire, Mr Sweeney said. "Fearing for Mr Brindle's

life and their own they fired 14 shots at Boyle with their rifles." Boyle was hit five times. Both men survived. Boyle is pleading not guilty to attempting to murder Mr Brindle and to possession of

two handguns with intent to endanger life. David Roads, 52, from south Mr Brindle

London, is pleading not guilty to attempted murder and pos-Disguised in a wig and using a stolen van, he had session of firearms. The Crown alleges that Roads quipped Boyls with guns, stolen vehicles and safe

Magnum, Mr Sweeney said. Undercover police were an-The court heard that the Brindles were a south London family well known to the ticipating that Boyle would leave his vehicle to shoot Mr Brindle, at which stage they police. There was a feud between them and others, including a would arrest him. Marksmen

London criminal called Peter were hidden in a British Gas Daly. A number of people had van close by. died in the feud. But when Mr Brindle Boyle had allegedly been hired as a hitman and the police had learned of the plot. emerged from his home. Boyle opened fire from inside

the van. Mr Brindle was hit in the elbow, chest and leg, and He had travelled from Dublin fled back to his home. to London at least six times Boyle pursued him, the jury tween April and September heard. The armed officers in connection with the plan, the court heard. The jury was challenged him but he did not

shown surveillance film of stop. He was hit in the elbow. Boyle within a few yards of chest, shoulder blades and left Boyle within a few yards of heel The court also heard that in February last year Boyle had

driven to the small square been arrested in Dublin and had became an informer for the Garda. He gave them inwhere Mr Brindle lived. He was armed with a Browning emi-automatic pistol and a formation about a Dublin criminal, George Mitchell, and told them that Mitchell and Peter Daly had been to

the Caribbean to arrange a drugs deal. He also told them Daly had asked him to sort out the Brindles, with whom he was

having problem Boyle said the Brindles had a gang from Northern Ireland on their side in the feud," Mr Sweeney said. Two other Brindles, Patrick and George, were possible targets. "Boyle said he was going to

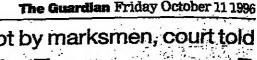
England. He and two others

had a target and three hits would possibly be done on the same night." The Garda told Boyle not to take part in the shootings but he ignored their advice, Mr

Sweeney said. The Garda said they would inform the English police. Commander Roy Clark of the South East Regional Crime Squad, was placed in a dilemma, the court was told.

the plot, there was a danger -"given the bloody back-ground to this dispute" --that they would carry out a pre-emptive strike. He had had to balance the need to get enough evidence with the ne cessity of preserving life. Medical assistance was on standby throughout the

operation. The case



Police shots felled 'hitman

Scene of the shooting at Rotherhithe, south London. Below, Anthony Brindle, shot twice before police could intervene

If he informed the Brindles of



MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN GODINE



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reied." His call was backed yes terday by the Health Education Authority, whose skin cancer campaign manager, Katie Aston, said: "Our view on sunbeds is clear. We do not recommend their use for cosmetic purposes and want to see them removed from local authority premises. We are concerned that sunbeds can be found in places associated with health, which means the public are receiving mixed messages."

Brothers' hanging riddle

POLICE are investigating the riddle of two middle-aged brothers. believed to have been from Leeds, found hanging on Tuesday from the same branch of a tree in what is thought to have been a suicide pact at a countryside beauty spot outside York. North Yorkshire Police said there did not appear to be any suspicious circum-stances, but a spokesman said the deaths remained a mystery.



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Lisburn bombs: man held victory for part-timers

Appeal Court supports casual worker's claim for sick pay

tion, was refused statutory sick pay after she injured her back on the job in June 1992 and was off work for nearly

UNDREDS of thousix months. All employees earning sands of casual workers could win basic emmore than 551 a week are enployment rights after the Court of Appeal ruled yester-day that a woman who had titled to sick pay after three months, but Granta refused Ms Brown on the grounds that she was employed on rolling one-day contracts. worked for nine months on a series of one-day contracts Its decision was upheld by the Department of Social Se-curity and a social security was entitled to sick pay. Cherie Booth, QC. wife of the Labour leader Tony Blair. successfully argued that Sally commissioner, who said she was no longer employed after the day she was injured and Brown, a care worker with the Granta Housing Society, had had "continuity of em-ployment" and was therefore covered by the terms of the was sent home from work. But Lord Justice Nourse ruled yesterday that Ms Brown's contract had become indefinite under the act and Employment Protection Act.

Day. Unions hailed the judgment as a breakthrough and the Trades Union Congress said it would now seek to use the case to extend other employment rights to casual workers. John Monks, the TUC general secretary, said too many employers were "trying to use temporary contracts to escape their obligations to

treat employees fairly". There are about 1.7 million casual workers and the number is growing. Supply teach-ers and agency nurses should benefit from yesterday's decision.

Ms Brown said she was surprised at the outcome. "I am pleased that it is all over and she was entitled to sick pay rights after three months of that I have been able to set a precedent for other people in my position."

Ms Brown, who is sup-ported by the Child Poverty Action Group, will now go back to the Social Security Bruton warns IRA hardliners: 'No | the benefits that confers, they will have to get rid of the tacmore spectaculars or beatings' Appeals Tribunal to try to se cure an estimated £1,200 sick

David Sharrock **Ireland Correspondent** MAN was in police cus A tody last night in con-nection with the IRA no-

of brain tumour operations. Four of the most serious warning bomb attack on the Army's headquarters in Lisbomb casualties are still in intensive care, and a soldier with head injuries and burns burn, Northern Ireland. It is understood the man was arrested at his west Bel-fast home at 7am yesterday and taken to Castlereagh holdis still critically ill. In Dublin, the prime minis-ter, John Bruton, renewed his

'Crisis' over black pupils' exclusion

els or governors.

ing centre for questioning. The RUC can detain the attack on Sinn Fein, revealing that his Government will shortly bring forward legislaman, believed to be in his 30s, for seven days under antiterrorist legislation.

The arrest came less than 24 hours after the officer in charge of the investigation ap-pealed to the public for infor-mation about cars used in the attack and after a description of one suspect was issued.

Donaid MacLood Education Correspondent

XPULSIONS of black chil-

reached "crisis proportions"

in some areas, according to a

three out of four pupils are barred for their attitude, not

report yesterday showing

tical use of violence - for good. "No more Lisburns, No It emerged yesterday that the emergency created by the more spectaculars. No more

beatines. No coded warnings. bomb attack on Thiepval bar-Just the ballot box." racks forced surgeons at He warned the republicans: Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast to postpone a number "The Government will continue to carry forward the po-litical process, with or with-out Sinn Fein."

Addressing Unionists, he said the people in the Repub-lic had "no agenda of a progressive takeover of Northern Ireland against the wishes of

the majority of people there. "If there ever was such an agenda or mentality here, it has certainly gone. There tion on decommissioning of paramilitary arms. Most of the IRA's arsenal is hidden in agenda to undermine the the Republic. Mr Bruton told the Dall: "Let me say this to the hard-liners: If the republican move-"Any government I head

ment want to be taken seriously as democrats, with all | such agenda."

would never be part of any

New row looms over EC plan to cut fish catch

warned that stocks would be | danger -- will be reduced, but largely destroyed if restric- | those for tuna, herring and Stephen Bates in Brussels

tions were not imposed. HE Government was on There are too many fisherthe verge of another con-frontation with the Euromen and too few fish. We must do something to sort out pean Commission over the fishing industry last night, as officials warned that it would the imbalance: market forces alone will simply lead to bankruptcies, increased costs not accept additional limits and decimation of stocks on catches without action to stop the national fishing fleet and the consequences will be being bought up by foreign 'More and more The row is likely to break at Monday's meeting of Euro-pean fisheries ministers in Luxembourg, with the compeople whose economic activity bitation renewing its demand for a 40 per cent cut in the fishing catch for some species over the next six years — and Britain insisting the so-called quota-hopping problem is resolved first. is not profitable will be pushed to sell their boats'

Other member states are also opposed to such a drastic irreversible," she said. To ease the reduction, the

cut in the catch. When the commission first cuts will be phased over a sixput forward its plans in the summer it caused an outcry by suggesting a cut in the number of fishing boats. But year period, and the commission proposes to make about £380 million available each year for compensation and number of instance to be giving ground to govern-ments, by insisting it was the number of fish caught that regeneration of fishing areas. Small coastal vessels will be excluded from the cut in the catch and not all stocks would have to be cut. would have to be cut. Emma Bonino, the Italian fisheries commissioner, hake — the species most in said.

those for tuna, herring and Baltic sprats will not. Scientists have warned that some species are in danger of being fished to extinction in the North Sea and North At-lantic, but Tony Baldry, the fisheries minister, has insisted Britain will not agree to major revisions in the amount each country can

and while the problem was worse for boys, black girls were also suffering dispropor-tionate levels of exclusion, said David Gillborn, of Lon-don University and Loncatch under the Common Fisheries Policy unless quotadon University's Institute of hopping is prevented. The Government and the fishing industry have been in-Education. Urgent govern-ment action was needed to es-

creasingly irritated that Brit-ish boats are being sold to European companies - par-ticularly Spanish ones -which thereby get access to the British quota of fish.

It has been aggravated by the loss of a case in the Euroean Court of Justice ontlaw ing the Government's attempts to prevent the foreign

takeover, and instructing it to compensate the Spanish com-Mrs Bonino dismissed Brit-

ish fears. "More and more people whose economic activ-ity is not profitable will be pushed to sell and I don't see how anyone can stop people selling their boats or stop people buying them," she

laws are sought by Padraig Flynn, European Union social affairs commissioner, in a drive to reduce the estimated 500,000 tobacco-related deaths a year in Europe.

Flynn is expected to make this month to the full Eurothis month to the full Euro-pean Commission are reduc-them, and harmonising power.

Commission for Racial Equal-ity, yesterday. There had with for constantly refusing to comply with school rules, been a conspiracy of silence over the additional health verbal abuse or insolence. "In some areas it is no exag-

and education costs as well as geration to say that the exclu-sion of black young people has reached crisis proporstress on the families. Permanent exclusions have risen rapidly since the introtions. In less than a full academic year more than one in 10 of Nottingham's black secondary pupils were in-volved in exclusion procedures. About one in 40 white children were involved during the same period (1989/

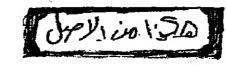
In two Nottinghamshire schools, teachers recently threatened to strike rather than accept unruly (white) pupils back into the class-room. However, Dr Gillborn found that nationally only the classroom by appeal pan-Physical aggression or bul-lying was the reason for only 27 per cent of all exclusions,

tions in tar and nicotine tobacco taxes to make ciga-levels, stronger health warn- rettes more expensive in

ings and regulation of other some member states. The commission's 1991 procigarette ingredients. The ideas are in a review of EU policies on tobacco to be

posal to ban most cigarette advertising is still being launched by Mr Flynn, in-cluding the 1 billion Scu (2000 million) of subsidies to tobacco farmers. He may pro-Labour's recent backing for a tobacco farmers. He may pro-pose restricting the use of cig-arette vending machines to base that EU legislation will be adouted if the party wins be adopted if the party wins

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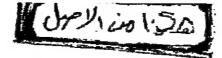
tablish a new code of practice on exclusions, said Herman on exclusions, said Herman according to official figures, overturned by school Ouseley, chairman of the The great majority were dealt governors. EU commissioner seeks tighter anti-smoking laws

Julie Wolf In Brussels

TOUGHER anti-smoking

Among the suggestions Mr

duction of league tables and parental choice, and were parred for their attitude, not violence or bullying. Black Caribbean pupils were being excluded at six times the rate of white pupils, and while the problem painted by teaching unions of schools having to expel vio-lent youngsters for the safety of staff and fellow pupils, only to have them foisted back on the discovery by complete



Clarke wins over doubters with defiant message

Michael White Political Editor

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HE Chancellor, Ken-neth Clarke, yester-day won a prolonged standing ovation from activists in Bourne-Tory mouth despite giving them a defiantly candid message about the hard choices they face on tax cuts and the Euro pean single currency.

The embattled chancellor contrived to use a well-crafted speech to yoke the two issues apolition of capital gains and inheritance tax and the elusive reduction of public spending to below 40 per cent of national wealth. "Our policy on economic

and monetary union is part of our policy on the economy," away at the central theme of the week that Britain's economic prospects are now the best for a generation. Amid speculation that one

false sentence might precipi-tate heckling from his ardent Eurosceptic critics. Mr Clarke embraced the cabinet line. He insisted John Major had been right to say the speech. single currency project would affect Britain whether it was in or out.

"It is in Britain's interest to keep all our options open. We should decide when we have to, not before. When we do de-

ference before joining the in-creasingly vocal cabinet plea for unity before the election. know they will lose. If we fight on the economy we will win. And with a Tory govern-Proclaiming his party to be ment back in power, the economy will do even better," the econ-omy will do even better," the chancellor assured doubters. The cheers which punctu-ated the speech were loudest when left and right in the au-dience could agree on a prop-osition. They cheered noisily whan he declared expedition "tax-cutters by instinct", Mr Clarke warned the Budget in six weeks' time would not in-clude unsustainable cuts that

have to be reversed. His claim that ordinary families are now \$700 a year better off than in 1992 was quickly rejected by Labour's Treasury team. Making allowwhen he declared opposition to the EU's single currency. But the loudest laugh came when he mocked his Labour ance for 22 new taxes - the £17 billion Lamont-Clarke shadow and frequent sparring partner. "Gordon Brown bases his policies on the Dolly Parton school of economics: an unbelievable figure, blown

'By staying in the game, we sacrifice nothing

and gain much'

sought to present last April's Cabinet compromise in a posdrive to curb borrowing itive light, despite pressure ever since to push Mr Major they were £130 a year worse off, Labour insisted. to rule out early British Mr Clarke's goal was to

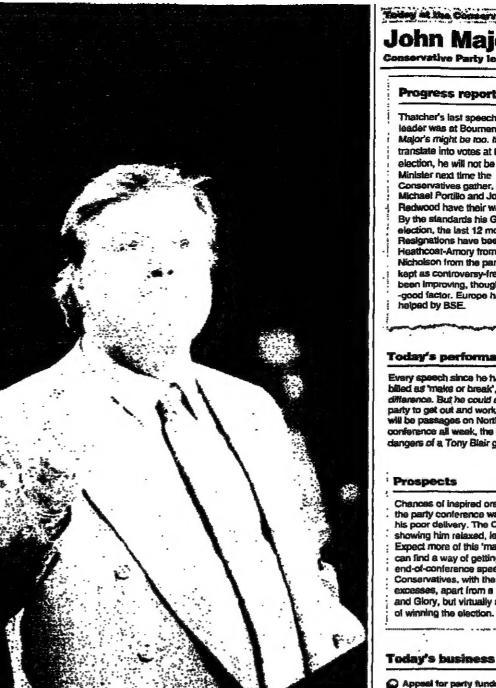
membership. "All Conservatives agree on dampen down his party's im-mediate expectations. "To earn the trust of the British people, we have to follow one Tory golden rule. We only cut far more things in the Euro-pean Union than we ever de-bate." Amid loud applause he went on: "We all support a taxes when we can afford to, and when it is good for the economy," he said in his partnership of nations and we are all hostile -- I am hostile -- to a United States of Europe.

out of all proportion, with no visible means of support." said Mr Clarke. In his passage on the single

currency, the chancellor

John Major prolonged the applause by joining Mr Clarke and raising their arms in triumph after the chancel-Faced with an audience packed with potential critics of both cautious policies, Mr Clarke insisted that they could still win the coming general election, but only by lor had wound up an anodyne economic debate that had following his advice - not been organised to prevent critics of the key policies cide Britain's choice will be free. By staying in the game, we sacrifice nothing and we gain much," he told the con-lection on the economy, they





Kenneth Clarke yesterday . . . 'We only cut taxes when we can afford to'

Chancellor considers how he can justify tax cuts

Analysis

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

ENNETH Clarke was slightly disingenuous yesterday when he said the debate in the Tory Party was not about whether to cut taxes, but when and how to cut them. Few are in any doubt about the "when.". Taxes will be cut on November 26. What the Chancellor has yet to work

out is the "how" Norman Lamont in 1992

had a simple solution to justi-fying tax cuts when public fi-nances were in a mess; he more than £25 billion this fiwill bring the Government nancial year, the City sees no justification for tax cuts. But in view of Labour's enormous poll lead. Mr Clarke's task next month is to make tax cuts "believable" Anything else would risk an adverse reaction from the City, leading to higher inter-est rates and the final snuffing out of Mr Major's elec-

priority will be to increase he will want to cut taxes. That will mean a penny off the areas of health and education.

study.

takes the size of the PSBR seriously by knocking per-haps another £1-1.5 billion off public borrowing. All told, this could add up to £6 billion. which would have to be found either through reductions in public spending or higher taxation in non-sensitive areas. Lower than expected infla-tion means the Government

tive. This could provide him with another £2 billion. As for tax, the curb on share-buybacks announced this week should net £450 million, while a doubling of the insurance premium tax to 5 per cent would garner £650 million.

The IFS believe the Chancellor may have his eye on tax relief on profit-related pay, which costs the Exchequer an estimated £1.5 billion a year. If that is still not enough, Mr Clarke can always jiggle around with next year's £4.6 billion contingency reserve. But somehow, and from somewhere, the money will

Mawhinney red-faced after

Today at the Conservative Party Conference **John Major** Conservative Party leader

Progress report

Thatcher's last speech as party eader was at Bournemouth. John Major's might be too. If the polls translate into votes at the general election, he will not be Prime Minister next time the Conservatives gather, and it Michael Portilio and John



Redwood have their way, he will not be party leader either By the standards his Government has set since the 1992 election, the last 12 months have not been that bad for him Resignations have been kept to a minimum: David Heathcoat-Amory from the Government and Emma Nicholson from the party. The legislative programme was kept as controversy-free as possible, and the economy has been improving, though not accompanied by the elusive tee -good factor. Europe has continued to torment him, not

Today's performance

Every speech since he has become Prime Minister has been billed as 'make or break', and in the end it has not made any difference. But he could do with a good speech to motiva party to get out and work during the election campaign. There will be passages on Northern Ireland, virtually ignored by conference all week, the good economic statistics and the dangers of a Tony Blair government.

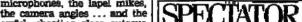
Chances of inspired oratory? None. The traditional shape of the party conference was changed this week to accommodate his poor delivery. The Question and Answer session worked, showing him relaxed, less stiff, with a sense of humour. Expect more of this 'man of the common people' theme if he can find a way of getting it to fit into the formal structure of the end-of-conference speech. A good conference for the Conservatives, with the unruly Euro-sceptics curbing their excesses, apart from a few rowdy choruses of Land of Hope and Glory, but virtually no one in private harbours much hope of winning the election.

Appeal for party funde by Lord Parkinson PM's speech

'Secret weapon Stormin' Norma

Extracts from John Major's | video messages they had sent tiary in this week's Speciator:

tioned this because, he said such behaviour is routine in the Socialist International. The second looked a bit wounded and the third dis-tinctly defensive. Probably they had seen how their fraternal greetings had been used. They will learn that this present Labour Party is not modern technology of speech making is so artificial. The microphones, the lapel mikes,



nances were in a mess; he came up with spurious figures for borrowing that were proved to be £7 billion awry once the Conservatives had won their fourth term. The current Chancellor knows neither the markets

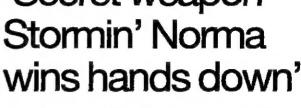
nor the voters would buy another transparent attempt to cook the books. "To earn and keep the trust of the British people, we have to follow one Tory golden rule," he said yesterday. "We only cut taxes when we can afford to, and toral hopes Mr Clarke will have three aims in mind sketching out

his Budget proposals. First, when it is good for the economy." will mean a penny off the areas of health and education. Given that the Public Sec- basic rate of income tax to 23 Finally, Mr Clarke will want

one step closer to its long-term aim of a 20 per cent basic rate of income tax. But Mr Clarke would also like to approach the 20 per cent tar-get from the other end — by widening the lower rate 20 per cent band to include more texpayers. The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) calculates that £1 billion would widen the lower band by £1,350 to the first £5,250 of taxable income. The Chancellor's second

pence, costing £2 billion. This | to show the markets that he | by the Private Finance Initia-

can deliver the same volume of public services for less money . According to the IFS and Goldman Sachs, this should be worth £500 million. Another easy target is public capital spending, since Mr Clarke can claim that any cuts will be compensated for be found.



to the Labour conference. One looked surprised that I men-**ONFERENCES** are fought on the beaches of the English seaside. I was about 16 when I attended one for the first time. I can't remember much about it, ex-cept I couldn't really afford to go. But I did and I became even more hooked on politics . . . The



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Shephard offers schools tough ways to deal with unruly pupils

Rebecca Smithers and John Carvel

EACHERS are to be given tough new powers to discipline unruly papils including detention after school without parents' consent, the Government announced yesterday in a pack-age of reforms for an Education Bill to be introduced this autumn. "The ambitions of the many

must not be thwarted by the blatant hooliganism of the few," said Gillian Shephard. the Education and Employ-ment Secretary, in a speech designed to put discipline, diversity and higher educa-tional standards at the centre of the election battlefield. Her strong line was wel-comed by headteachers' lead-ers, but the National Consumer

counter-productive", under-mining recent improvements

pupils without parents' permission during the lunch break or after school. Mrs Shephard knew parents had to be at least consulted under European human rights law, and compulsory detention on the day a pupil committed a misdemeanour impractical: Mrs Shephard said her new measures built on Conserva-tive principles which were

politan Authorities said

"about achieving, about independence and success, about fulfilling potential, about ambitions and aspirations". The controversial assisted places scheme — which Labour has pledged to scrap — would be extended to private primary schools. And in

a further opening up of "clear blue water" between the two parties, Mrs Shephard pledged to establish more new Council said proposal for parents to sign binding con-tracts covering homework, be-haviour, dress and attendance grammar schools

grammar schools The Government will ex-tend it from two pilots cover-ing 8,000 people to around a dozen unemployment "blackwould be "unworkable and spots" including the North-east. It also envisages a greater and other qualifications for to use its schools," she said. in partnership between parents and teachers. The Association of Metro-

Bottomley bursts into surprise song

teachers would be unable to implement her plan to detain Was \tilde{z}

> Gillian Shephard ... blatant hooliganism of the few

role for the private sector, which could take the schemes

over completely. In addition, plans to give every young person more op-portunities to learn, get quali-fied and prepare for work will be set out in a December white paper. This will explore

16-plus, while introducing "learning credits" to help young people to make better choices of what and where to

Under the new Education Bill, — to be included in the Queen's Speech this month schools would get extra flexi-bility to exclude pupils for 45 days in any year, rather than the current 15 days in any term. New contracts between schools and parents will be a condition of admission, placing a duty on families to en-sure their children's attendance and good behaviour. Mrs Shephard told journalists after her speech it would be a "foolish parent" who refused to sign a contract, and

that some sort of appeals system would be introduced to deal with such cases.

She mocked the poor per-formance of schools in Labour-controlled local authorities. She also ridiculed Tony Blair and his shadow

cabinet colleague, Harriet Harman, over their choice of school for their children. "He [Mr Blair] may live in Islington, but thanks to Conserva tive policies, he does not have

'Labour defector' unmasked

Michael White

THE Conservative chair-man, Dr Brian Mawhin-ney, was forced to retreat in disarray along Bournemouth's seafront yesterday when a much-trumpeted "Labour defector" turned out to be less than the genuine article.

Within hours of Marco For-Mr Forgione said. gione, a 26-year-old self-em-ployed caterer from Yeovil. being introduced to a press conference, he had been denounced as a non-member by Labour and revealed as a Tory activist in Paddy Ashdown's Somerset patch for at least two years. Mr Forgione is a prolific letter-writer, and he uses the local Tory HQ as his address, Liberal Democrat officials said. Mr Forgione had been

billed as a former "parliamen-tary adviser to leading Labour MP, Keith Vaz." a member of Labour's environ-mental team and an "aide to the Labour leadership." He was "a man who had even ence centre.

worked alongside Jack Straw. usually does, although this year the tour had quite a dif-ferent air. This year the press had invented "Stormin" "Behind the scenes, I saw the reality of what is going on in New Labour. I saw in-fighting, bickering, scheming and politicies cobbled together for Norma, the Secret Weapon!" political expediency. I saw (No invention this, it has been New Labour's egos, the pos-turing for personal ambitrue for years.) And so Norma attracted more cameras than I tions, the wallowing in bick-ering and the back-stabbing," did. This is the first time for years the media has got its visual priorities right

But in his first appearance before the press Mr Forgione admitted under questioning he had hever actually been a Labour Party member or voted Labour at a general election, though be had at local level. Dr Mawhinney has had his

share of mishaps since suc-ceeding the accident-prone Jeremy Hanley as chairman. exclusively reveal it was the Learning from last year's ill-starred jibe at the Camden Asian Women's Hopscotch Group during his conference speech, the chairman cut his losses yesterday and hurriedly usbered away his charge away into the Bournemeouth confer

awful, cheating glass autocue patented by Ronald Reagan ... the form I spent most of September on tour around the country. Norma came with me as she 120 Major's dream Of johns, antiorrest and Norma 1840 r

very scrupulous . . . Like most I left the [European Union summit in Dublin] after the people, I like a lunchtime stroll to get away from my desk. Sadly, the days are gone when I could mip out for a quiet walk meeting, but before dinner. This caused some excitement among more idle folk who didn't bother to find out when and return invigorated. These days, a 'quiet' walk is shared with the cream of the Met, and I had told the Irish I was leaving, or why. So the Sunday press proclaimed it a snub! ... I didn't tell the Taoiseach why I left early, but I can now interrupted by friendly tour-ists from Milwaukee and

Tokyo There is often a price to be paid for these walks and, sure enough, as I re-entered No 10, there was John Holmes, my foreign affairs private secre-tary, in his hand an ugly-look-

with ... three Socialist prime Small? Not so. Sir Humphrey ministers about the recorded would have been proud of him.

weekend of our 26th wedding anniversary and given a choice between dinner with Norma or 15 men, Norma won ing file and in his eye, a wicked look. "We have this small problem," he said. Small? Not so. Sir Humphrey hands down On the sidelines of the Dublin meeting I had discussions

Shirty dame gives ITN short shrift

Bournemouth Thatcherite magazine For-ward. In it he advocates the right would gather at fringe meetings excitedly chanting "Thatcher, Reagan, Botha, Pi-nochet." Happy days.

carried out. They were,

OHN MAJOR'S shirtsleeve session on Wednes-day has caused a row at N EVERY previous Conservative Party conference at ITN. Political correspondent Bournemouth, the press Tom Bradby filed a report on the session for the early eve-

have been dumped in the swimming pool, which, suit-ably drained for the occasion ning bulletin in which he said that the PM took his jacket off "Tony Blair style". Within minutes ITN's Thatcher-ennohas served as our working area. This year, the swim-ming pool has been turned into a champagne and sea food bar and the press have bled political commissar been consigned to an area which seems suspiciously like an underground car park.

Or at least some of us have. Major, threatening unmen- The Murdoch press and the tionable consequences for Telegraph have been accommodated in plusher quarters ITN if her orders were not nearer the watching eyes of the party press officers. They

N EIL HAMILTON may not have been among us this week, but he has at

the conference edition of the out in the cold. Allow to set. And serve it up each autumn at the seaside.

ward. In it he advocates the privatisation of the weithre state along Chilean lines, it calls to mind those warm con-ference evenings in the 1980s when such free-thinkers of the pudding recipes. But I wonder F YESTERDAY was indeed the last time Heseltine addressed a Tory confer-ence then at least he went out in style, sporting the Guards tie which he is entitled to wear by virtue of his brief soif his Blackcurrant and Kirsch Sorbet is not also a metaphor for his conference speeches? journ in the Welsh Guards in

the 1950s. This Heseltinian habit once Boil sugar and water provoked Willie Whitelaw to together for 20 minutes. Allow syrup to cool. Strain the blackcurrants into the remark that he could never quite trust a chap who wore his Guards tie outside central syrup. Stir with lemon juice London. and Kitsch (sorry, Kirsch).

Martin Kettle



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sustained attack on Labour's tank, the Adam Smith Instiplans to reform the constitu- tute, had "helped" her. tion, Mrs Bottomley won more applause for her singing. Delegates appeared stunned when she broke off from her | Daisy", concerning the two prepared speech to deliver Tony Blair" in the "Savoy opera" style of Gilbert and who teased trade union lead-trade union lead-Sullivan. To the tune of the Ruler of 1979 election by singing: the Queen's Navy from HMS | "There was I, waiting at the

Pinafore. Mrs Bottomley sang | church

and the second second

Rebecca Smithers on venture into verse

ERITAGE Secretary Virginia Bottomley yes-iterday unveiled plans for 'OBE-style' awards for the secretary what tunelessly. After the first verse the audience cheered, thinking Mrs Botcheered, thinking Mrs Bot-tomley had finished, but she young people, in a move to carried on. offer recognition to Britain's "unsuing heroes". But in a highly political speech which began with a Other politicians who have ventured into verse include Lady Thatcher, who "lilted" a couplet to the tune of "Daisy,

leaders of the Liberal-SDP Alliance, David Steel and David ers in 1978 over the date of the



As a boy be seent to public school And be learned one very important rule: If you say what people want to hear Your advancement soon will be very, very clear

He used that rule so ruthlesslee That now be is the ruler of the Labour Parise

In Islington some time be passed And adopted all the manners of the chartering class He drank white wine and be acted cool And be sent bis son to an opt-out school

He went in style to Tuscance And now be is the ruler of the Labour Partee

Spin-doctors rule. He stopped all thought He gagged John Prescott and he banned Clare Shon Now be only says what people think is nice and be offers you this piece of very unse advice:

Just smile through your teeth and anote police And you all could be rulers of the Labour Pariee 10000

reference and an extra slice of

Dame Sue ("I can pick up the phone whenever I want to and speak to John Major") Tinson came on to demand immediate withdrawal of the Blair

The Guardian Friday October 11 1996 **6 WORLD NEWS Dignity blooms among the damned**

Europe reeled when a leper colony was discovered in Romania after the 1989 revolution. **Ed Vulliamy** reports from **Tichilesti by** the Danube on the battle against an ancient enemy

WAIT for death to come," says Mihai Buzatu, his disfigured face and body like melted wax, sitting on the spot where he has lived for decades and knows he will die. What else is there for us to wait for?" Today, doctors gather for a

mune. The only animal which can carry it is the armadillo. World Health Organisation conference aimed at eradicat-Today leprosy feeds on overcrowding and poverty, and occurs mainly in India, ing before the new millennium one of the most mysteri-Brazil and Indonesia. So the world was astonished by ous and awe-inspiring of diseases, which curses Mr Buzatu: leprosy. the discovery of a leper colony in modern Europe in the wake of the 1989 Romanian revolution.

disintegrates the human body, or why others are im-

Romania's communists typ

ants dealt with lepers much

as their bibilical ancestors

had done, shoving them out

Despite its apocalyptic mys-tique and a history as old as recorded time, leprosy remains a challenge to mod-ern medicine. An estimated 1.26 million people suffer from the disease, and 2.4 mil-lion are disabled by past leprosy. About 600,000 new cases

are diagnosed annually, and on the edge of the Danube nace where used bandages are the site of a deserted monas-only since 1981 has the WHO delta, a stone's throw from now incinerated rather than tery in 1877, but all its inhab-been able to administer a new the Ukrainian border. concoction of drugs, called MDT, which halt the disease. It was discovered in 1990 its roof falling down, without heating in the cruel winter, its patients living in misery. No one yet knows how people catch this pernicious but delicate organism which

are well kept, their gardens lambent with flowers. For those who can still use their The colony was trans-formed by the few donations hands, there are vegetable plots. About 1.26 million people have leprosy,

600,000 cases are diagnosed annually, and 2.4 million people are disabled by it

that followed its discovery. It Most of the 39 patients are is now an almost pl aled, but forced to remain place; there is dignity in the in the colony bearing their uffering. There are drugs, scars: limbs or fingers missing, faces and bodies disintenurses and Orthodox and Saptist churches with clerics, grated. They sit chatting on both lepers. aches in the courtyard.

.With its discovery, the colo-ny's extraordinary history of sight and out of mind. The colony is sited on a path winds up the hillside, remote hillside at Tichilesti, past the cemetery and the furunfolded. It was opened on

e-used, as they once were. The whitewashed cottag

first world war. After the war lepers were scattered across the southern Soviet Union, outcasts and, according to Tichilesti's director, Dumitru Pavel, "literally living in

holes in the ground". But word spread of the haven by the Danube delta, he learned the truth about and lepers embarked on an extraordinary journey across his own origins, which had evaded him all his life: his the plains to resurrect the col-

ony in 1928. The only survivor of that journey is Filofieia Climov, now aged 87 and a grand-mother. She came from the Ukraine, was blinded by leprosy 45 years ago, and is now a horribly disfigured but gentle figure. 'Fog, fog — But I was appalled by saw when I came here." until one day I saw nothing

more," she says. There have been marriages three years. Asked why he een the community's incame.

he replied:

habitants, and children born to them. Of the 20 raised to was eight, I was very sick and died for a minute. There were children jumping up on to a adulthood, only one has conbalcony where the Virgin Mary was waiting for them. tracted the disease - Mrs Climov's daughter Vera, aged 62. In 1991 the colony had its But she said to me: 'Not yet. want you to do something' first admission for many years — a man who went for a nose operation in Bucharest have always wondered what and was told he had leprosy. Disbelieving, he was dis-patched to the colony, where

and the stigma attached to it that the experts from the WHO and health ministers from 10 countries are assen bling in New Delhi today. who had lived and died in Tichilesti. Their programme builds upon the discovery that MDT

"But we still don't know how you catch it," said Dr Dr Pavel is a remarkable figure. An unhurried, deliber-Vijay Pannicker, of the ate man, he acknowledges that there is a risk he will contract the disease. "I probably have. WHO's special action team. We cannot culture the organism in a laboratory, but what I all the indications are that it is not strong, and can be eas-He has been at the colony ily controlled. But to treat it. have to get to everyone.

it was, and now I know." It is to end both the diseas can halt the disease.

Left Bank to lose heart of its history

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

IN CAFES where tourists pay 20 francs (£2.50) for an espresso just to keep Sartre's seat warm, glares are darting over the rims of half-moon spectacles: the soul of Saint-Germain-des-Prés is for sale.

Politicians are churning out letters of protest after news that two leading Left Bank bookshops, La Hune and Le Divan, are at the mercy of mercantile forces. In the face of declining

sales, the publishing house Gailimard has decided to sell Le Divan — its book shop in the heart of the district where intellectuals used to rest their chins between their thumbs and index fingers and discuss the Nouveau Roman and New Wave cinema. Flammarion the publisher which owns the even more illustrious La Hune, is denying

rumours of a sale. The potential new tenants are famous names Dior is rumoured to be planning a ready-to-wear

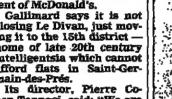
brought the world bohe-mian chic, ready-to-wear is seen as the fashion equivalent of McDonald's.

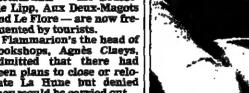
closing Le Divan, just mov-ing it to the 15th district home of late 20th century intelligentsia which cannot afford flats in Saint-Germain-des-Prés.

hen-Tanuggi, said: "We are distressed to see the chang-ing nature of the area but we cannot keep up with the property market. We are very attached to our bookshop but we have to concen trate on publishing." The area's residents have

included Picasso, Sartre and de Beauvoir. Giacometti, and Duras. It was here that Brigitte Bardot was initiated into the incrowd. But its cafes and restaurants — the Brasserie Lipp, Aux Deux-Magots and Le Flore — are now frequented by tourists.

bookshops, Agnès Claeys, admitted that there had been plans to close or relo-cate La Hune but denied







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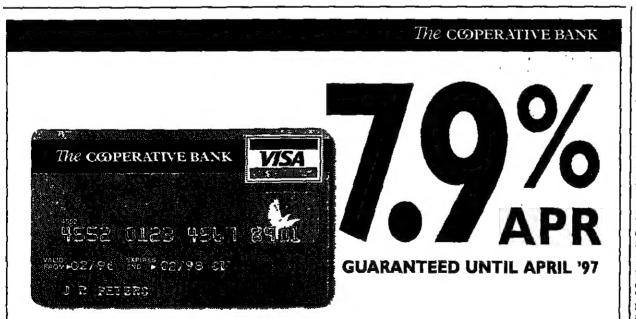
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وجريعه وترويس - 16 M

athan Steek

mes is tipped for La Hune — Neither Hermes nor Dior but in the area which would comment last night. Tourists fill the cafes of Saint-Germain-des-Près, once the haunt of figures such as Simone de Beauvoir and Jean-Paul Sartre. Property prices have driven out today's intelligentate



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Paul Webster in Paris until 1993, said that when he tried to reform taxation of the RENCH MPs pegan were media leftwing Mrs gave media lef RENCH MPs began to

with journalists over tax and let newsmen roll over them as well." he said. reforms after newspapers threatened to stop reporting parliament if their perks Because the tax concession

were taken away. Rightwing MPs lodged an amendment to the Gaullistallows them to offer low wages, newspaper owners have an interest in maintainled government's proposal to do away with a 30 per cent special deduction on journal-ists' declared earnings. Journalists' unions, backed ing the hidden subsidy. Newspaper editorials have not criticised the threats by journalists, despite obvious links between their tax conby newspaper owners, have called for a national strike on cessions and the coverage of political life.

Tuesday when the budget measure is discussed, but support for the amendment More than 160 other professions could lose their special rebates, but only the media seems to have aroused MPs' concern. among government deputies is so overwhelming that it is espected to be carried easily.

Michel Charasse, who was | piclon that the journalists' | journalists would not benefit the Socialist budget minister | perk contributes to compla- | from proposals for more gencency about reporting on corruption or the illegal activi-

board and can control

stable of pro-government MPs as columnists who benefit from the tax concession.

papers have taken a lead, leaving the exposure of "sleaze" to the minority

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POLAND

Nato treads fine line in Baltics

ties of MPs.

the "invisible man" tactic. Sympathy for the government case has been reduced

eral income tax cuts. In the provincial press MPs are often owners or on the

Despite recent high-level political scandals, few news-

The national journalists union, the SNJ, says the con-cessions offset the profession's dependence on expenses. Many deputies only backed

appointments. Some papers, such as the daily Le Figaro, also have a the journalists' cause after their local papers threatened to ignore their activities

by its threat of reprisals. The RPR national assembly leader, Michel Pericard, a former television reporter, said

unspecified action would be taken against a list of journalpress. Dozens of MPs have de-fended their support for the man" policy. Mutual suspicion has inten-mativilege by saying that rebates, but only the media seems to have aroused MPs' ithe timing — in the run-up to concern. the 1998 general election — is There has long been a sus- bad. They also claim that gag the reporting of scandals.

> remain sceptical. "Is someone from St Louis really preparedto die defending Daugsvpils [in eastern Latvia]?" asked one official one official. Such talk angers the Balts. who argue they are in far-greater need of protection than the other east European

Nonetheless, some Western

diplomats in the Baltics.

states tipped for Nato mem-bership. "We do not talk about alternatives to Nato," said a Latvian foreign minis-try official. "There is no alternative."

Sven Jurgensen, political di-rector of Estonia's foreign ministry, said the Baltics could not

i.

Isry, said the Balifics could not take a caim and easy approach to Nato membership. "We get so many conflicting messages out of Moscow," he said. "We feel we share the said. We feel we share the same democratic values as western Europe, and we feel those values are worth de-fending. Nato is the only Organisation that can suran. organisation that can guaran-

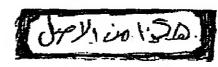
tee our security." Finland, Sweden and Den-mark share this concern, votonew members, thought likely to be the Czech Republic,

Hungary and Poland. In a letter to the Lithuanian government this week, the United States secretary of ing their fear that an early Nato expansion which ex-cludes the Baltics will create an uncomfortable grey zone. state, William Perry, clarified Unable to give any firmer remarks he made last month at commitments, the US launched a "Baitic Action Plan" last month aimed at easing the republics' entry a Nato meeting in Norway, underlining that the republics were "fully eligible" for Nato into Nato and the EU.

The Guardian Interco perspective of the last ^{conomics,} sport and ^{our initiative to make at} now takes the newspaper with the

each day at a reduc Guardian Internation simply get hold of an write to Van Getrier

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upsetting Europe's security map have tramped over the three Baltic states. Now, five years after the collapse of the Soviet Union finally gave them their independence, Es-

John Henley in

Helsinki on three

small republics

While Russia's security chief, General Alexander Lebed, hinted earlier this week in Brussels that Mostonia, Latvia and Lithuania are once more a growing focus of superpower tension. As Nato seeks to expand

"If mishandled, the Baltic issue has the potential to deboost Russia's security" Itar Tass quoted Gen Lebed as saying at a conference yester-day. "Nobody can guarantee that it won't occur to someone rail Nato enlargement, redraw the security map in

was recently done to Irao." As part of both the tsarist empire and the Soviet Union, i the Baltic states were long a key part of Moscow's de-fences, dotted with thousands of military here and lister

made early membership of the European Union and Nato the central plank of their foreign and defence policies. Mistrust blame the states' "Singing were "fully eligible" for N ing Russia, they want guaran- Revolution" of 1991 for the membership -- but not yet.

fanned by the repeated out-bursts of Russian military ESTONIA hardliners. Anton Surikov, a senior adviser at Moscow's Defence Research Institute, bluntly told the Estonian daily Postimees: "If a genuine attempt is made to make the Ballio See Baltic states members of Nato, we will move our troops into the Baltic states. This much is unavoidable." KALININGRAD (Russia)

tees that they will never again fall under its influence.

Their fears have been

cow may be softening its op-position to Nato enlargement

eastward, diplomats fear that these three small republics, a battleground throughout his-tory, could again cause prob-lems far beyond their borders. towards the Baltic republics,

at some time to do to us what

in central Europe, Russia remains highly sensitive about the Baltic republics. "Will Nato's eastward ex-pansion, towards our borders, fowards the Baltic republics

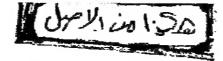
of military bases and listen-ing posts. Many Russians blame the states' "Singing

north-eastern Europe and provoke a crisis between the West and Russia," the Rand Corporation, the influential American research institute, said earlier this year. All three Baltic states have



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The Guardian Friday October 11 1996

WORLD NEWS 7

Jonathan Steele in Khinjan uncovers a united front against Afghanistan's dominant militia which splits the country on ethnic lines



takes her children home through the ruins of their deserted neighbourhood in Kabul

Taliban's warlord rivals cement secret alliance

HE Taliban militias. on a crusade to restrict women's rights and establish the world's harshest Islamic recime, suffered a potential setback yesterday when Af-ghanistan's two leading war-lords formed a powerful military and political alliance against them.

General Rashid Dostam, the Uzbek militia leader, and Ahmed Shah Massoud, the Tajik former defence minister, met in an old Russian guesthouse on the northern slopes of the Hindu Kush. They shook hands at the beginning, hugged each other at the end and in the intervening 90 minutes agreed to issue an ultimatum to the Taliban to sue for peace or face a united

military front. The alliance thwarts the Taliban's hopes that the opposition would remain divided, allowing them to pick off each one separately in a lighting campaign to conquer the country after seizing the capital, Kabul, two weeks ago. The new union means that Afghanistan is split into two blocks, divided on ethnic lines, with the Tajiks and Uzbeks of the 10 provinces of the north linked together against the largely Pashtun Taliban who control the 19 provinces

around Kabul and the southwest But the alliance could go further, leading to the unrav-elling of the Taliban militias, aura of invincibility whose seemed unchallengeable a

Gen Dostam and Command-er Massoud had not met in the three years since, in one of the country's many shifts in Mazar waited in the courtin power, the general walked out of the mojahedin governyard with obvious approval. Russia and the former Soviet states of Central Asia have made no secret of their alarm ment in Kabul and turned his guns on it. A helicopter clattered into at the rise of the Taliban. The formation of the alli-

Khinjan shortly before 3pm, bringing Cmdr Massoud from his headquarters in the Panjshir valley. Gen Dostam had arrived earlier in an armour plated Cadillac. He then took a four-wheel drive vehicle to the Salang pass to inspect his forces, who control the strate-

ance in the North gives them the buffer zone for which they had hoped. Ironically, they now find themselves backing the very people who resisted

the Soviet invasion in the Eighties. The Uzbek and Tajik lead-

The alliance could unravel those whose

invincibility seemed unchallengeable

gic tunnel through the Hindu ers were joined by Abdul Kush mountain range. Karim Khalili, the head of John Burns, of the New York Times, and I were the only foreign newspapermen on the scene for the historic Wahdat, an armed movement which represents the Shi'ite community of Hazara people in the central regions of the meeting which Gen Dostam country. The Shi'ites are deeply suspicious of the Tali-ban's Sunni fundamentalism. had wanted to keep secret for security reasons.

On the road west to Mazar-i-Sharif, where the general The meeting was chaired by Said Mansour Nadiri, the has his headquarters, a long. leader of the Ismaeli Muslims of Baghlan province. Afterfast-moving convoy of Landcruisers came towards us, eswards the three leaders signed a statement inviting every leader of the jihad (the mojahedin movement) to meet in Mazar to form a new corted by Jeeps full of troops and lorries mounted with anti-aircraft cannon.

We followed the caravan to a compound in Khinjan government. which had once been used by the Russian engineers who built the Salang tunnel in 1964. The site was chosen to They set up a "supreme de-fence council" but, in a clear shorten the hazardous jour-

ney for Cmdr Massoud. As the leaders met, Oleg Neve-typev, the Russian vice-consul (they would jointly resist) they warned the Taliban that they would jointly resist anyone who continues to fight against one of the signatories of this statement". The dramatic meeting came

shortly after Cmdr Massoud's forces mounted a hit-and-run attack on the Bagram air base, 30 miles north-east of Kabul. The Taliban thwarted the attack with the loss of sev eral men, but burnt down a house in retaliation.

Coming two days after an ambush in Olang, a town just south of the Salang pass, the attack has made members of the Taliban militia more nervous. They stopped reporters and other travellers going north of Charikar on the road out of Kabul and blocked traffic on the road from the Salang.

The sudden change of atmosphere led to an emergency meeting of staff from the United Nations and other international aid agencies in Kabul. The Taliban had detained and beaten a worker of the International Committee of the Red Cross on Wednes day night. Mullah Mutaqi, the Taliban

information minister, hinted that foreign reporters might be expelled. The mullah an nounced that about 80 people had been arrested in Kabul for "looting" and would be put before islamic courts. It was not clear whether the wave of detentions presaged

overture to the Taliban to call the start of a long-feared a ceasefire and join them, clampdown on opposition said its composition would be [groups.

Another nail in LA's coffin | Hired mouths lend spin News in brief to screen showdown

Christopher Reed in Los Angeles

OS ANGELES is doomed to die of drought, if an earthquake doesn't end it first.

Scott Stine, a geographer and paleoclimatologist at Cal-ifornia State University, found that the LA basin has a history of extraordinarily long droughts, and could face another soon.

"We have compelling proof and it could happen again." he says. "Unless a contingency plan can be found we could not live in LA the way we are State and city water offi-cials, worried by the findings, are holding talks with Dr In the early days of migration

lasted more than 400 years. Los Angeles is now at about the half-way point.

from the eastern states, new comers were tempted by crooked estate agents who lauded LA's "Mediterranean" weather. They would show home buyers the glorious wild (desert) flowers of

nique to advance their cause the placard

one journalist to talk to their | Niagara Falls. The irouble hired mouth. There were few | said Mr Gore, is that the Dole takers for the former presidential candidate Lamar Al-exander, and business was painfully slow at the stall of Geston Caperton, the littleknown governor of West Virginia One operative joked that next time the spinners would be brought in on sedan chairs. **Republicans** entered this

game late, having been out-signed at the first presidential debate last Sunday. The Democrats were all clearly la-belled then, partly to spare reporters the embarrassment of ignorance. This time the

Republicans made sure they

said Mr Gore, is that the Dole Kemp plan "would put the American economy in a bar rel and send it over the falls". That got a laugh in the hall, but it was hardly the zinger of US political legend. Vice-presidential debates

are known for the killer one liner. Americans recall Lloyd Bentsen's "You're no Jack Kennedy" line to the hapless Dan Quayle in 1988, and the unforgettable "Who am I?

What am I doing here?" from lames Stockdale, the running mate to the Texas billionaire Ross Perot in 1992.

But in the 1996 campaign the emphasis has been on "civility" - the politicians'

Arafat warns of renewed intifada

THE Palestinian Authority president, Yasser Arafat, said yes-tenday that his negotlators had achieved nothing in their crisis talks with Israel.

With the talks apparently deadlocked on the issue of Israel's vithdrawal from the West Bank city of Hebron, Mr Arafat urged Palestinians to be "fully prepared . . . to confront all possibilities". His bleak assessment followed his warning. reported in an Egyptian newspaper, that growing Palestinian frustration could lead to an uprising. "Those who believe that I can stop an intifada of the Palestin-

an people are making a big mistake, and are ignoring the fact that the people are disappointed and in pain because of the humiliation and the injustice," Mr Arafat told Al-Musawar newspaper.

His comments have ansered Israeli leaders, who hold him responsible for last month's bloody clashes in which 60 Pales tinians and 15 Israelis were killed. But Israel's negotiators insist on drastic changes in the agreement to redeploy occupa-tion forces in Hebron. They want to reduce the Palestinian police to be deployed and restrict them to carrying pistols instead of automatic rifles, as agreed more than a year ago by

rings and radio-carbon dating enabled him to find evidence in the stumps of droughts ending in the 13th and 14th centuries. The climate of the LA basin

Stine to develop such a plan. He found that the LA basin suffered two droughts in the Middle Ages, one lasting 220 years and the other 140 years. The evidence came to light in the drought of 1987-92 when ancient tree stumps were found on the bed of dry lakes in the Sierra Nevada mountains,

Information in the growth

spring, omitting to mention winter's flash floods, and the absence of rain for half the Those living the California

dream face another threat of doom: archaeologists say no

Florida irrigated society has ever

Jonathan Freedland in St Petersburg.

****************************** The spin cycle has taken another turn as the moulders of American public opinion have discovared a sophisticated new tech-

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The Guardian

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They were all over St Pe-tersburg within seconds of the televised showdown between Vice-President Al Gore and Jack Kemp, the Republican who wants to replace

The debate was still unfinished when the warring ar-mies of spin doctors flooded the media pen - each one identified by a sign held above his head.

The result was a politi-cians' meat market, the signs drawing customers to the product on show. A large crowd swallowed up George Stephanopoulos, the diminu-tive adviser to President Bill Clinton.

Without the aide waving the sign, he would have been completely invisible. Staff walked the spin_pit,

brandishing placards selling cabinet members for Mr Gore, or assorted Republican grandees for Mr Kemp. Some sign-holders looked plaintive, their eyes begging for at least

with iron filings

BIOLOGISTS tracing how

much carbon dioxide goes into the sea have made the oceans bloom — by giving it

Professor Andrew Watson,

of the University of East

Anglia, and British and

American colleagues reported

in Nature yesterday on a fer-tility experiment in the east-ern equatorial Pacific.

affects the productivity of the ocean," said Prof Watson,

"but we also wanted to know

what controls the natural

level of carbon dioride, which has an effect on climate."

So a research ship sprin-kled half a ton of iron over 20

In a day, the mass of micro-

scopic algae had doubled.

Within a week, the "bloom"

had increased 30 times.

square miles of the Pacific.

We wanted to see if iron

Tim Redford Science Editor

tron

blue-blazered volunteers to act as sandwich-board men. Once this sinister art of the C-Span cable television network.

in which voters named nut Gore the winner by 57 to 28 per cent. Democrats praised their man for a "spec-tacular performance". tacular performance". They insisted that Mr Gore had ad-libbed the best line of plan for the next four. had ad-hipbed the best line of plan for the hext four, the night, in response to Mr It was hardly gripping Kemp's claim that trickle-down economics was so American people wants. At effective it would be more like least, so the spinners said.

of past campaigns. Mr Kemp and Mr Gore were falling over themselves politics took place in the shadows. Now the gathering of quotes and post-game anal-one sentence. Each referred ysis is an official part of the event, even carried live on and Mr Kemp refused an invi-

The cheerleading after the Gore-Kemp contest was, as al-ways, utterly partisan. "Jack did a good job of beating back Al Gore's 'Medi-scare' cam-paign," quipped the Republi-meremention Scatter of Discuss President Chi-ton's character problems. The two men were allowed to be themselves. Mr Kemp emerged a Johnny-one-note, whose pana-read for every problem — from

can campaign manager, Scott Reed, dismissing early polls in which voters named Mr increased access to credit and

years' achievements and the

Carbon dioxide **Fingerless skeleton may** researchers put stay to haunt Salinas

ocean in bloom Phil Gunson in Mexico City

AskELETON found buried by Raúl Salinas, the brother of September 1994 murder of José Francisco Ruiz Massieu, general secretary of the rul-

ing Institutional Revolutionary Party, the country's attorney-general said. Mr Salinas was arrested in February 1995 in connection He said that if they were with the murder and is being held in the maximum security Almoloya jail. So far the case against him has been based primarily on hearsay.

The bones are thought to be those of Manuel Munoz Rocha, a former federal deputy who went missing two days after Ruiz Massien's murder, allegedly after saying he was on manders has been resolved. his way to see Raúl Salinas. The government had threat-

Salinas said he had not seen of indigenous peoples. the former deputy for years,

The iron supplement led to a bloom of phytoplankton They were photographed on which temporarily locked the day of the murder at the hospital where Ruiz Massieu away 9,000 tons of greenhouse gas, raising the possibility that the carbon dioxide prob-

had just as many spinners as | collective response to public | the previous government. The Palestinians reject the de their rivals — and enough | revulsion at the negative tone | mands. — Derek Brown, Jerusalem.

> **Bildt opposes Bosnia pull-out** THE international mediator Carl Bildt called vesterday for foreign peacekeeping troops to stay in Bosnia until 1998 to give the country a chance to recover from war. There are about 53,000 peacekeepers in Bosnia under Nato-led command, but their mantation from the debate moderator to discuss President Clinate expires on December 20.

"This military presence would primarily be a deterrent, to provide reassurance that there are no military options and no military threat, thus providing the conditions necessary for political reconciliation, re-integration and reconstruction, " Mr

Serbia to take back refugees

SERB-DOMINATED Yugoslavia agreed to repatriate 135,000 refu-gees living illegally in Germany in a treaty signed yesterday, promising they would not face discrimination at home. Deporta-tions are to take place over the next three years. Most of the illegal aliens are ethnic Albanians from Kosovo.

Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) promised no returnees would face discrimination, the German interior ministry said.

The treaty, signed by Germany's interior minister, Manfred Kanther, and the Yugoslav interior minister, Vukasin Jokanovic, guarantees that "repatriation will occur with complete respect for the human rights and dignity of the returning people," the German ministry said. In addition, soldiers who defected from the Yugoslav army during the Bosnian war are guaranteed iom from prosecution.

Mr Jokanovic said his government expected Germany in return to support its efforts to secure international economic

Bildt said in a speech in London. - Reuter, London.

Bavaria vesterday deported to Bosnia a convicted sex offender, aged 29, becoming the first German state to act on an agreement by the 16 states and Bonn to begin repatriating Bosnian refugees Today, 31 Bosnian orphans are to be returned to Sarajevo. - AP.

Yeltsin squeezes officials

RUSSIA'S president, Boris Yeltsin, yesterday, ordered all govern-ment officials to declare their income, in a high-profile effort to fill the federal budget's empty coffers.

He said he was considering "emergency" tax collection measures, and rumours have been circulating of armed tax police being stationed in brewerles, distilleries, and companies import-ing wine and beer from abroad.

In a statement from the sanatorium where he is preparing for heart surgery, Mr Yeltsin said: "Students, teachers, the military and other workers in the state sphere are not receiving wages because a number of big enterprises are literally taking the finances of the country by the throat and refusing to pay taxes." — David Hearst, Moscow.



The gunman, Daniel Agui-

lar Treviño, was arrested at the scene and is serving a 50year jail senter A on property owned by Raúl Salinas, the brother of the former Mexican presi-dent, could belong to a key figure implicated in the September 1994 murder of the former Beltz Mexican figure implicated in the September 1994 murder of the former murder of the former Mexican presi-figure implicated in the september 1994 murder of the former figure in the set of the second set of the second former figure figure implicated in the september 1994 murder of the former figure in the september 1994 murder of the former figure figure figure figure set of the second figure figure set of the second figure figure figure figure figure set of the second f

an anonymous tip-off. The attorney-general, Anto-nio Lozano Gracia, said it could take about three weeks

confirmed as those of Munoz Rocha, the case against Raul Salinas would be "strengthened immeasurably".

Meanwhile, in a separate development, the standoff be-tween the Mexican govern-ment and Zapatista (EZLN) rebels over a proposed visit to the capital by guerrilla com-

The police believe that Muñoz Rocha helped to plan the assassination. At first Mr this week to attend a congress

but later he changed his talks it was agreed that the story. EZLN's "Comandante EZLN's

Her visit to Mexico City will be the first by an EZLN was taken after being shot at commander since the 1994

But after severals days of

Ramona" should attend.

TheGuardian

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United at Bournemouth

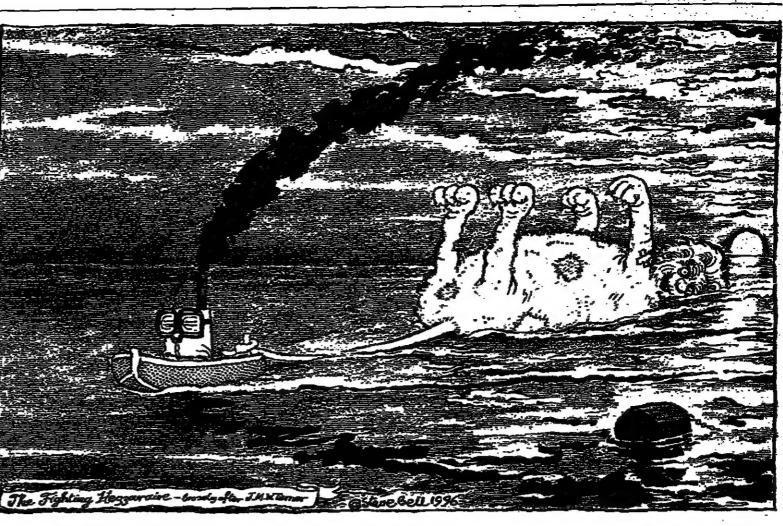
The trouble is the voters simply don't believe it

this year's Conservative Party confer- mouth in low esteem among his eneence at Bournemouth to say that the Tories have had a surprisingly good week. And so, up to a point, they have. From the point of view of party manage | tic position on the single currency. He ment, the conference, which ends this lunchtime, has undoubtedly gone well. The proximity of the election has meant that there have been no open displays of dissent in the hall of the kind which marked conferences earlier in this parliament. Senior figures in the party have spoken more or less as one. A high-level Cabinet operation to support Kenneth Clarke's position and to maintain the April 1996 Cabinet agreement on policy towards the single currency has been impressively and effectively driven through the week's proceedings; the work begun by Malcolm Rifkind on Wednesday was carried further yesterday, not just by Mr Clarke and Michael Heseltine but also, significantly, by Michael Portillo. This conference will have disappointed those who were looking for the Conservative Party to collapse into internecine madness.

There was also, in John Major's question-and-answer session on Wednesday morning, a reminder that the Tory leader has instincts and abilities to which people genuinely respond and which constitute a genuine threat to Labour Party confidence. Mr Major was immensely effective on Wednesday, though his achievement has to be seen in its context and not overhyped. He won over an audience which wanted to support him, and he did it by articulating an absolutely realistic tactical opposition to Eurosceptic demands with an authority which many in that hall, accustomed to hearing only anti-European rants and to reading only anti-European newspapers, can rarely, if ever, have heard before. It was possible, in the hall, actually to feel Mr Major winning the argument and enhancing

IT IS fashionable among observers at his position. He had come to Bournemies, and even his supporters, amid speculation that he might yet be forced to commit himself to a more Euroscepleaves Bournemouth more respected and more secure in his leadership even than last year (when he had recently defeated John Redwood's challenge). That security is strictly temporary, until the election, and contains an implicit assumption that he will no longer be leader in 12 months' time, but even this is a luxury he has not enjoyed often, and it gives him greater authority as the seven-month campaign begins in earnest

However, it is one thing for a party to persuade itself to be united, and quite another for the country to notice it or to appreciate the fact. The Tory party has a natural impulse towards electoral survival and a belief in its entitlement to govern, and there is a widespread, if belated, recognition that it now faces a Labour Party which seeks its objectives with, as Mr Heseltine put it yesterday, steely discipline. There are therefore two crucial questions to ask about the Tory Party at the end of this conference. First, has it achieved anything more positive this week in the way of collective vision and fresh thinking? The answer to that is no. There have been very few substantive new proposals on show at Bournemouth and, although Mr Major's speech today may spring some surprises, there have been more promises to examine than commitments to act. Second, are the voters likely to change their well-established antipathy to a tired and crumbling government on the basis of a single week's damage limitation exercise, always supposing that it does not quickly fall apart? Nothing is impossible in politics, but the odds remain very firmly against it.



Letters to the Editor

A woman's role in the police

WHILST I am sorry that VV your correspondent (Let-ters, October 10) had such an unhappy time with her local police force, and understand the pain reported in your article (Inside Story, October 9). I totally reject your letter headline that "the police force is no place for any self-respecting female".

Police work requires confident people who are able, as far as possible, to maintain their humanity, sensitivity and integrity, despite what sometimes happens to them on the streets. We have many impressive women and men who fulfil that achievement. The problems of harass-ment are increasingly being recognised and many individual grievances are properly resolved. The police service, like many other organisa-tions, dislikes contested in-dustrial tribunals and counteracting publicity which might be generated by ag-grieved individuals. But that does not mean that senior of-

ficers are not working to im-

Your second correspondent ould find many victims of

OBERT Jones MP (Let-) be refused outright. To sug-ters, October 9) sug-gest that travellers have the same planning access as anyone else is like suggesting we all have the same political ac-**European Court decision** against June Buckley affirms that gypsies have the same rights under the planning cess as the likes of Ian Greer. Jim Carey. 1a Waterlow Road

In reality, however, we must be aware that the grant-ing of planning permission is London N19 5HW.

HE letter from Robert Jones MP fails to aca highly subjective process In the run-up to the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act, knowledge the harsh realities created in particular by the 1994 CJPO Act. Not only was the Department of the Envithe duty of local authorities to provide adequate sites for gypsies abolished, but the Act at the same time gave new powers to the police and local ronment issued circulars suggesting planning permission for travellers should be en-couraged. At the time, this ancouragement was touted as a solution to welfare concerns authorities to direct the arising from the strong mearemoval of caravans from unsures contained within the authorised sites, and created Act. However, since the Act, planning permission for trav-ellers has been a rarely several new criminal offences aimed at gypsies who con-tinue to camp on land without permission.

ellers has been a rareiy achieved phenomenon. Particularly poignant ex-amples of this are two at-tempted settlements in Som-erset at Kingshill and Tinkers Bubble. The DoE inspectors sent to report on these plan-ning cases conducted exten-sive local inquiries. They both recommended that tem-The Government chose to ignore warnings during de-bate on the 1994 Bill in the Lords that such discriminatory treatment of gypsies would breach international gypsy sites should not be law. The recent judgment of the European Court of or in the open countryside, Human Bights did not decide makes it almost impossible

HE environment minis-ter's letter is selective in use of facts but conceals its the truth. To take only his points on private sites. True, the powers of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act cannot be used sgainst sypsies on their own land without planning permision. Instead, the Town and Country Planning Act is used

The unwelcome traveller Franky Barbara:

with fines of up to £20,000. Under this legislation gypsies have had their mobile homes broken up by local councils and made to foot the bill. The number of caravans on private sites is growing each year but at the very slow rate of just over 100 per year --- 117 in the 12 months from January 1995. At this rate, it would

take 26 years for the nearly 3.000 families still on the roadside to get a pitch, assuming they could raise the money to buy land and go through all the hoops of the planning process. The Government's own

BARBARA Castle (Letters, BOctober 7) accuses me of failing to produce the costings of the welfare reforms I have been advocating. At the Guardian fringe meeting during the Labour Party confer-ence in Blackpool, I told her that the costings, which have been undertaken by the Government Actuary's Department, will be published next week

the final round

In the meantime, Barbara might like to publish corrections to her own figures. She has misinterpreted the National Insurance fund contributions and included the sum that goes towards the National Health Service as money being available to fi-nance her reforms.

The problem is that Bar-bara has not changed her ideas despite the massive change in circumstances. She is trying to persuade the Labour Party to adopt a pen-sion scheme that Tory gov-ernments have savaged not once, but twice. Suppose she

won the argument; what guarantee could she give that a foture Tory government

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A carelessness with freedom

A privacy law may be inevitable. What an epitaph for an age

tabloid journalism. Over the past 10 Saloon. But last orders have now been years the mass-circulation papers sounded so often that one could forgive owned by Rupert Murdoch and Mirror | the public a certain amount of scepti-Group Newspapers have redefined their cism about the effectiveness of the role so as to have less and less to do Press Complaints Commission. Is there with news and more and more to do any longer any dignity in responsible with entertainment. If they restricted and irresponsible editors publicly themselves to resurrecting Elvis or discovering Routemaster buses on the moon, no-one would mind very much. mechanism may yet operate as a As it is, they find their entertainment | restraint upon still worse excesses? in exposing the human frailties of almost anyone who is in the public eye, and quite a few who aren't.

This has little to do with journalism as it was understood by the tabloid editors of a previous generation, let alone a Cudlipp or a Christiansen. Yet liberals continue to mumble platitudes about freedom of the press, as though those who fought for such freedoms through the centuries would have hailed the right to expose the marital infidelity of a TV weather man, the private confessions of the Duchess of York or this week's wildly mistaken peephole voyeurism by the Sun.

No self-respecting journalist in the country would offer a serious public interest defence to half the excesses now perpetrated on an almost daily basis by editors working for two proprietors. There is no defence to many of the stories. In a word, they stink. They give ammunition to the enemies of press freedom, help restrict open public debate and generally debase the culture.

WE MAY be approaching a crisis in | to sound last orders in the Last Chance standing shoulder to shoulder to defend the indefensible in the hope that this

We are now perilously close to having some form of privacy law introduced in this country. That is something which this newspaper has always resisted. Any editor naturally shrinks from legislation which would bring the blunt and punitively expensive weapon of the law to bear still more on the already fragile right to publish. How would any law distinguish between Clare Short and Neil Hamilton; between Michael Fish and Robert Maxwell; between Sarah Ferguson when it suits her and Sarah Ferguson when it doesn't? Yet there must eventually come a time when honest journalists and proprietors will be forced to acknowledge the failure of self-regulation and reluctantly concede the case for the introduc-

tion of external restraints. If that day comes, let us be clear who will be to blame: Rupert Murdoch and David Montgomery. It would be a heavy burden to go down as the men responsible for so carelessly throwing away precious freedoms won so dearly. Is So Lord Wakeham is right once more | that really the epitaph they crave?

John Major's conference diary

In which he reflects on shirt sleeves and difficult questions

balling friends, I am in no small measure over the moon. Wednesday turned out to be a historic day, after my "shirtsleeves" Q&A session was acclaimed, as Dr Brian Mahwinney had predicted, as a "bravura" performance. As one wag said afterwards, so much for the old, stuffed-shirt image! (a joke which would have had the Conference rocking with laughter, if only I had thought of it earlier). Am I the first party leader to address a conference in shirtsleeves? I'm glad you asked me that, because the answer is a resounding yes. I always say there are two sorts of politicians: those who keep their jackets on - with all the unpleasant discomfort and awful artificiality involved - and those, like me, who prefer to discard them entirely, relax and share a quiet joke with friends. As I telling, wouldn't it! One last question -said to Brian afterwards, can you pic- can we rule out sleaze? Sorry madam, ture Mrs Thatcher in shirtsleeves? Or we're out of time!

TO BORROW a phrase from my foot- | John Redwood? Not to mention our good friend Mr Tony Blair! We both roared.

But trust the Labour Party to claim that Tony Blair was the first to take his jacket off. As usual, they are not fooling anyone. And anyway, even if Tony Blair has been taking his jacket off for years, it just goes to show how his pampered upbringing leaves him out of touch with most ordinary British people. As a former resident of Brixton, I was 18 before I owned a jacket and, in my family, even shirts were considered a luxury. In his autobiography, my brother Terry has already described how, for many years, we all wore reinforced cotton vests, which we simply stuffed with straw and old newspapers when the nights drew in, Can we rule out a tax on jackets? Now that would be

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rape who would applaud the sitivity of the police. Alan Moss. Police Superintendents' Association 67a Reading Road Pangbourne, Berkshire RG8 7JD.

prove things.

And in brief

WILL the Burhill Golf Club (Golf rules handicap adopted son, October 8) also disqualify from family tour-naments the 30 per cent of children who are not the sons and daughters of their moth-ers' husbands? Not to mention those who result from an tificial insemination by donor. As the mother of two adopted children I am well aware of prejudice against adoption and adopted child ren, but rarely is it so blatant. Name and address supplied.

T is strange that the Sur apologises to Princess Diana and James Hewitt only when it is revealed that the video pictures it published are a hoax. This implies that, were the film genuine, it would have no such qualms - in the public interest, of course. Adrian Bending. 231 Elgin Avenue

London W9 INH. AMES Beament (Letters, October 10) believes a preference for tonal music is "in

built" because "our hearing mechanism" selected these harmonies. If this were so tonal music would be as uni versal as colour perception. But it's not. Tonality was de veloped by Western Europe at the Renaissance and is not used by other musical forms - in Chinese music, for example. This appeal to a hearing mechanism as "ours" in-vites Tonto's reply: "Who's this 'we', paleface?"

Antony Easthope. 27 Victoria Avenue Manchester M20 2QX

IOW did the referee in Tallin know that Scotland would win the toss and decide to kick off (One-sided victory for Scotland, October 10? Did he use a double-headed coin? Dennis Ruston. 7 High Street, Horbling, Nr Sleaford, Lincs NG34 OPE.

NEVER mind pictures of Margaret Thatcher (Let-ters, October 10). What I find even more odious is the Guardian's willingness, not for the first time, to give a voice to Myra Hindley (Why I refused to call Esther, October 10). Can we not keep this murderer out of our newspaper? S J Neville. PO Box 5, Oldbury.

porary planning permission this question, but there are should be granted for a trial many cases following which period. However, in both will do so. these prominent test cases, Environment Secretary John Philip Leach. Legal Officer, Liberty. Gummer overruled his own inspectors and insisted that | 21 Tabard Street. planning permission should London SE1 4LA



relevant. Nor does the fact that British designers are at the whose views are inconsequen-tial about events which have cutting edge fill me with pride. Eamon Grant. as much relevance to our lives 165 Russell Ro as the movement of the Birmingham B13 8RR.

Numbers go up, pants come down

THE single most interest-ing and dispiriting, find-ing of your opinion survey SINCE New Labour policy Oscems to be dictated by opinion polls and focus ing of your opinion survey (Hamilton should resign now groups, I trust the fact that 75 as MP, say voters. October 8) is that 67 per cent believe that MPs of all parties have been accused of taking money to ask questions in Parliament. per cent of respondents are against public money being used to fund political parties will lead to an immediate conempation of the idea by As far as I am aware, there Tony Blair. have been no allegations that Edward Greening. Labour or Liberal Democrat 25 Garden Street, London E1. MPs have been paid to ask questions, yet more than two-thirds of voters (even 59 per YOUR leader (A Labour landslide, October 8) is

over-optimistic. People do lie to opinion polls: they did so that there have been such hugely in 1992. A Saxton, reports. This shows either that yoters are simply not sufficiently interested in the story to be 3 Pippins Court, Vauxhall Grove, bothered with the facts or. London SW8 ITB.

cent of Labour voters) think

this.

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more worrying perhaps, that the "plague on both their houses" virus has reached such proportions that a ma-Utracting votes for the US presidency because he took jority of people really do think that MPs are "all the his jacket off and looked relaxed. Heaven forbid that same" - even when 'he evithings should get worse for John Major (Relaxed PM dence so clearly compodicts comes up with the right answers, October 10) or we The implications for our democracy of such levels of ig-norance and/or prejudice are might be seeing more of his deeply disturbing. Jim Madge.

underpants, and not in Steve Bell's cartoons. Brian Bethell. Brook Lane, Woodgreen. 3 Cherry Drive,

to find land which will get planning permission, which the same way and halve the value of Serps pensions? is why 90 per cent of applica-Frank Field MP. tions fail. **House of Commons** (Dr) Donald Kenrick. London SWIA 0AA Romany Guild. 61 Blenheim Crescent. MANY will sympathise With Barbara Castle's London W11 2EG.

condemnation of the Government's neglect of pensioners. Unfortunately, the sad politi-cal reality is that few taxpay-Lambeth ways ers would be prepared to sub-sidise the elderly through THE continuing claim by Lambeth that it inherited

higher taxes. The only viable long-term solution is to introduce legis-Enhorne Lodge School is not true (£650,000 for empty school. October 9). In the transfer from Ilea in 1990, the lation that require)every citizen of working age to make regular, monthly contribuchool was allocated to Westminster. However, a Lambeth tions to their own pension Labour councillor, who was guardian of a boy at the through the private sector with means-tested assistance school, persuaded the controlfor the less well-off. ling Labour group to secure the school for Lambeth. It is With a shrinking workforce, an ageing population, and an overburdened welfare perfidious that, within a year,

the council was seeking to state, this will become a necessary evil. It is also quite untrue for Lambeth to claim that it can-**Richard C E Steel.** 17 Montpellier Terrace, Cheltenham not afford the school or that it

costs it money. The entire cos Glos GL50 1UX. is recovered from borough with boys at the school. Over the past five years. Lambeth Letters to the Editor may be laxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent has received an excess of inby post to 119 Farringdon Road. come over expenditure in London ECIR 3ER, and by erespect of the school amountmail to letters@guardian.co.uk. Please include a full postal ing to as much as £150,000 per address and daytime telephone number. even in e-mailed letters. We regret we cannot Enborne Lodge School. Enborne Street, Wash Com acknowledge receipt of letters. We may edit them: shorter ones Newbury, Berks RG14 GRL.

are more likely to appear

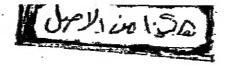
A Country Diary

close the school.

Tony Freke. Chair of Governors,

уеаг.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: The crops at five years old and apple tree which stands close five feet high. Saturday afterto the northern hedge of our noon saw me precariously aloft in the tree to gather the garden is probably no more than 30 years old. It is a crop and convey them to stor-age in a ventilated top-floor cooking apple of an unknown provenance, though the estiroom. At best, they can last mable Mr Bracher, our hay supplier, tells me that he bebeen eating the windfalls for some weeks now and the sheep have done even better lieves it to be a variety devel-oped on the Berkeley estate in the last century. He's proba-bly right because I do see sheep have cone even bener from these early apples which, cut to quarters, are very popular in the late after-noon, especially with the older ewes. The flock pro-vided a splendid photo-oppor-timity early one morping as other specimens in the local-ity. Whatever its culinary vir-tues, which go from simple work-a-day apple desserts up to the tunity early one morning as the overnight temperature fell close to frost. The baler is well filled with the sweet-smelling hay of the June cut to the gastronomic elegance of apple baklava, it is not of apple basiava, it is not quite up to the standard set by the Bramley, the sharp acidity of which, combined with its keeping qualities, make it the winner in its class. The age of the tree also ensures that, even with some fairly structured excitation and eight ewes were gathered round the hay as I surprised them. They all raised their heads and stopped to look. A lovely visual image presented itself — the ewes all looking fairly structural pruning in its earlier life, it remains a large standard in form and I find myself, as I contemplate up from the hay in autumnal morning sunshine for a pic-ture with the legend. "We all eat and recommend Mr Cullithe crop, wondering about the Bramleys, on dwarf rooting stock, that I planted in our last garden in the Scottish 1930s' Horlicks ad. mores's hay" on the lines of a



ties

The Guardian Friday October 11 1996

Diary Matthew Norman

n Belge

Nintriguing letter, dated January 31 1994, has reached the Diary. It is a reply from Sir Alastair Morton, chairman of debt-ridden Eurotunnel. to that great writer of let-ters, Nell Hamilton. The MP had been in touch on behalf of a constituent, a Mr Halkett, whose firm, Therme-dics, had failed to win a tender to detect explosives in the Channel Tunnel. "In it." writes Sir Alastair of an earlier missive from Mr Halkett, "he made the very offensive suggestion that the decision to purchase the competitor's equipment had previously been made in France. This is Bullshit." Ignoring that rogne capital "B", we come to the final paragraph. "I would like to suggest to you that Mr Halkett should not try to wank his MP with his left hand," writes Sir Alastair, "while pursuing new business in a normal fashion with his right." It's an enchantingly elegant image, of course, but what the hell does it mean? "This is a private letter." says a Eurotunnel spokesman, at least con-firming its genuineness. "and therefore I can make no comment on it." Ah well.

RANWHILE, Mr Hamilton also fig-

tor ramblings of the Cypriot wine waiter Taki-George

("The domestic with the De-

mestica," as the side of his

graced MP, he says, having

libel towel: he surrendered to Mohammed Al-Fayed, on the grounds that, in calling him "a coke-sniffer", the

Egyptian had uttered the

simple truth. To his credit,

Ford Transit puts it). T-G

empathises with the dis-

also once thrown in the



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however, T-G applauds the Guardian for what he quotes as being "the biggest victory of any left-of-centre newspaper against a Conservative government for a long time". For that expres sion of solidarity, we thank him warmly. HANKS also to those who have pointed out, somewhat gieefully, that yesterday's item about the gerbil was not wildly original. Apparently, the story appeared in Private Eye three years ago. It also

appeared in Private Eye eight years ago. On the "five-year rule", it will reappear in Private Eye in two years' time. Its next sched-uled appearance in the Diary is May 17, 1999.

Na rapid-rebuttal coun terstrike, Max Clifford has denied Oofy Wegg-Prosser's claim that he has long been a party member. "Tell Oofy I've always been a supporter, but never a member," says Maz, who



Commentary Peter Preston

this relationship with him in 1989. Shortly before then, I made an appropriate entry in the Register of Members' In-terests." But that, he admit-ted frankly, was too little, too HE Third Man was called Mr Smith: a name that doesn't exactly resound in the memory, a name with mass anonymity attached. So why do I keep remembering him? late. "I realise these circumstances may be misinter-preted to the damage of both myself and the Government. I Not just when the Neil Hamil-ton files are open on the table, but when Michael Howard is offer you my profound getting his Bournemouth TV stander for the latest round of Home Office retribution. Tough on transgressors, tough on the causes of transgression. Two strikes and you're out. One strike and your driving licence is gone. Back — across the mists of time - to the kinder, gentler

world of Mr Smith. Tim Smith, the Conservative MP for Beaconsfield, was a junior Northern Ireland Office minister in October 1994 when the Guardian first published its detailed story about cash, questions and

apologies John Major benignly "regretted this necessity" and was duly "grateful for your clear and full explanation" -but "nonetheless, what you did was clearly wrong, and in these circumstances I accept your resignation". Exit, Mr heard of him again.

bench and down-bench for a month or so, the word

Indeed, had the Hamilton/ Greer libel case gone ahead last week, stretching up-

chose not to exit, little was

"Smith" might never have troubled a passing juror. Tim Smith, as his own barrister

sundry matters. Mr Hamilton and Mr Ian Grear issued libel

writs. Mr Smith resigned from HMG. He had, he told

the Prime Minister, "raised

some of [Mohamed Al-

Fayed's] concerns in Parlia-mentary Questions and in an adjournment debate. Mr Al-Fayed paid me fees, I ended

Smith. And, because others

Mr Al-Fayed's behalf be-tween 1987 and 1989. That

number, with an adjourn-ment-debate speech set sepa-rately, is 28. A lorra, lorra questions. There is Mr Smith's retreat from the front-line of ques

tion asking - not, it would appear, because of some deep internal moral anguish, but because Tiny Rowland was vividly assaulting his activi- Harrods by Ian Greer, but

nal story, removing one name and one half of the

action from mention, let

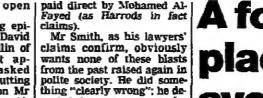
pamphleteering. There is the baffling epi-sode of July 1998, when David Hencke and John Mullin of The Guardian first ap-proached him and asked whether he had been putting down paid questions on Mr Al-Fayed's behalf. He said: "That is not true." He volun-teered only that Harrods had given a couple of teddy bears, which he had declared on the register. And - perhaps most in-scrutable of all - there is the said in the open preliminar ies, was not waiving his Par-liamentary immunity. What he did, what he admitted, perplexity of what Mr Smith told Mr Major and what Ian Greer Associates told the even his very existence, must press on the selfsame day, October 20, 1994. Tim Smith be a closed legal book - a thick scrawl with a felt pen through the Guardian's origi-

through

(to repeat) said "Mr Al-Fayed paid me fees." An IGA state ment (to the Financial Times) said: "Mr Smith was paid as a consultant, which involved him asking ques-tions on our behalf. That is

We can't know if that bizarre mix and match of walved and unwaived immunity would have been sus-tained by the judge. But, since the unopened non-court of Sir Gordon Downey rules now, the Member for Bea-consfield would seem to be back in blay. There are thus Exit, Mr Smith. And, because others chose not back in play. There are, thus, a few things the great blanket of forgetfulness swiftly cov-ered from view which may become freshly relevant. to exit, little was heard of him again very far from being paid to

There is the number of questions Mr Smith asked on ask questions." Here's profound disloca-tion. Tim Smith guit. But was he on the Al-Fayed books or the Greer books for payment purposes? Does the IGA ledger make any reference to the money that changed hands? If it does, why on earth didn't Mr Smith say so at the time? If it doesn't, then the implication is starkly different: he was recruited and fielded for



parted in a convenient instant with no thought of any subsequent investigation. The sacred Privileges Committee did nothing. The House of Commons was pre-

dictably supportive in its clubby, sympathetic way. Within a few months Tim Smith was back as a nomi-nated member of the North-ern Ireland Select Committee. Last year he became a member of the Public Ac-counts Committee, Westminster's most hallowed watch-

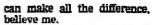
dog of financial efficiency the driving licensee (if you **Bel Littlejohn**

will) of Whitehall financial probity. Some say he may one day be its chairman. In a better, sweeter world Suffer? Of course I do, but not half so much now as when I was a (the world not-according to Michael Howard) that might be a small tale of rectitude novels of Margaret Drabble. In many ways, Drabble taught a whole generation of women how to feel, and, more cruand redemption. But, alas, we'll be talking different planets when Westminster returns next week. Whatever cially, how to feel depressed. the law might or might not say, Tim Smith exists. He was the third man when Ian Greer offered his services to There's an unforgettable scene in one of her middle period novels, I forget which. The beroine, Angelica, is contemplating suicide while pre-paring an avocado dip for a theme dinner party for close friends that evening. The Mohamed Al-Fayed, a part of the team as duly provided. And he was paid. Who did that? How was it done? Can we know a little theme is misery. It's the 1970s,

so when the guests turn up they're all bankrupt and very sad. By 9pm, the avocado dip is exhausted. They all are. For two pages no one says any-thing whilst the author homes more about something so "clearly wrong"? After 28 strikes, Mr Smith is not merely not out, but rebuild-ing a career. Good for him: but only a touch more co-op-oration and aralancian mill eration and explanation will in on the pattern of the tabledraw the line beneath events that he, and his party, so edgcloth - a depressing mixture of interlocking triangles, in many ways just like life. To break the silence, the ily crave.

Fayed (as Harrods in fact claims). placed in the avocado dip

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS 9



I think I was one of the first to notice the onset of their sibling rivalry. It was at a book-reading at the Hay-on-Wye Literary Festival back in 1983. Margaret was reading a beautifully sensitive passage from her seminal novel about the sixties, Choking to Death. She had just got to the crucial bit where Hermione asks Gladwyn exactly what Celia thinks of Patricia's affair with Marcus, and in particular how it will affect James and the kids. The lecture theatre was hushed in expectation. Suddenly _____ SCRUNCH SCRUNCH SCRUNCH - all eyes turned to the back, where Antonia Byatt — SCRUNCH SCRUNCH SCRUNCH SCRUNCH—was tucking into a king-sized packet of Golden Wonder crisps. By the time Antonia had got to the bottom of the packet, James had run off with Gladwyn, Celia had had a breakdown and Her-mione had departed with Patricia to find herself in India. Of course, it may have been pure bad luck. Even Susan Sontag sometimes enjoys a packet of cheese and onion. But just two months later, I was to experience another in timation of this sibling rivalry. Antonia Byatt had come to read from her novelberoine's friend Paul, a psy-

chiatrist, mentions it's raining outside. Next to him, Sally, a polytechnic lecturer, takes the news badly and has a breakdown. Sally's ex-husband, Phil, blames Paul for mentioning the rain. "How could you be so callous?" he asks. "Chicken Cooked in a Brick with Rosemary, anyone?" asks Angelica, struggling to wipe away the accu-mulated tears of two failed marriage Teddy, the failed merchant

banker, bursts into a fit of near-hysterical weeping. An-gelica blames herself for forgetting that Teddy's first wife

was called Rosemary. Rose-mary left Teddy for Phil, who had already left Sally after that fling with Paul. To alleviate the tension, Angelica turns on the radio. News comes through of the miners' strike, a major earthquake and two or three plane crashes. "And it's still only 1974," thinks Saily. "We've got another six years to go until the eighties - and who's to say they'll be any better?" She opens the oven and takes out the lemon

souffié. Storm clouds hover over it. Powerful stuff, and, as ever with Drabble, it captured the mood of the nation at that time. A lot of people were crying into their avocado dips.

in-progress before an invited audience for a special edition of The South Bank Show. In suitably husbed tones, Melvyn introduced her as one of the finest English novelists of her generation. She came on to much applause in a freeflowing cerise dress and headed for an armchair carefully positioned in the centre

of the station. With impecca-ble dignity, she sat down, but then — PHWAAAAA-ARRRRPPP! — the most em-ARABASTIC: --- IDE MOSE EM-barrassing of all noises emerged from her seat, fol-lowed by unearthly giggles from the back row.

FULL investigation by The South Bank Show security staff un-earthed a used whoopee cush-ion secreted upon the chair some minutes before. Their perpetrator was revealed as none other than the speaker's

Sintlar incidents followed. In 1992, as Byatt waiked to the platform at Guildhall to col-lect her Booker Prize, the Late Show cameras caught the merest glimpse of a "Kick Me" placard taped to her back, the tell-tale flourish of the "K" suggesting Drabble up to her old tricks again. And the last time I saw Margaret, reading from her latest novel at the



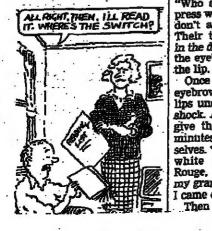
will address Mitcham and Morden Labour Party on Monday. "I'm sorry I didn't get back to you sooner," he adds, "but I was out with Mandy ... no, not Mandy Mandelson, Mandy Allwood. I haven't met Mandy Mandelson yet," Max con-tinues, "but I'm looking forward to it. I'm sure there's a thing or two we can teach each other"

VERHEARD, en route to making his conference speech, was Environment Secretary, Little Gum Gum. "Remind me of the names of my ministerial team," said Gum Gum to an aide. "Tm afraid I tend to forget them."

N the Daily Telegraph, Boris "the Jackal" Johnson appraises John Major's shirt-sleeve chat. It was, he says, "a triumph ... they chortled and stamped and cheered the new secret weapon". If some people think that the article might have ended with a line reading "Boris 'the Jackal' Johnson is the Tory candidate in Clwyd South", well, who cares? There will always be tiresome cynics.

Meanwhile, there was some concern at Canary Wharf yesterday about the Jackal's whereabouts. "Call back in an hour," said a spokesman. "We'll have a clearer idea when the search party returns from the PM's colon."

BURGLAR, who broke into an unocca-pied LA house, has died. The reason for the house's desertion, so the Fortean Times reports. was that it was being funnigated. and the man was fatally overcome by the chemicals.



Gary Younge, a Guardian reporter who has just completed a three-month fellowship at the Washington Post contrasts the black experience in Washington and London

Who do I think I am?

population.

EFORE I came to colleagues over to hear my "Oh, so you're from attended in Charlotte, North ask that sort of question. It America from accent, "Listen to this, listen Barbados." Carolina, there seemed to be would be considered ... well, only three higher authorities rude. England three

to this," she said. "Go, say something," she demanded, as if I was a circus marmoset. Most people here who have not travelled much abroad months ago, I asked an American journalist in London what kind of reactions to ex-pect. "Well, when they hear seem astounded to learn that black people exist outside America and Africa. Their an English accent Americans usually add about 20 points to image of England is what they your IQ. But when they see a see on television (Fawlty Towers, Upstairs Downstairs) and what they read in the black face they usually don't," he said. "You'll be an papers (Princess Di, mad cow disease). Whether that is the

Recalling that the authors of The Bell Curve had claimed that black people have an IQ 15 points lower than whites, I was beartened to think that even in the eyes of the most hardened racist I would still image that England wants to sell or the one that America wants to buy is not quite clear - my guess is that it's a mixture of both - but either way it doesn't leave much come out at least five points ahead. room for black people.

After three months in Washington, I am left wondering whether "anomaly" quite covers the mixture of benuse-ment, amazement and curlos-Questions like Where are you ity I have encountered since I arrived. Often people just think I am showing off. This from?' often mean is especially the case with African-Americans. All I have 'Please tell me you are not from here' to do is open my mouth and they prime themselves to ask: "Who are you trying to im-press with that accent?" They Once I have told someone I

am English they are generally prepared to take me at my don't actually say anything. Their thoughts are revealed word, which is more than can in the downward trajectory of be said about people I meet back home. A typical converthe eyebrows and the curl of sation goes something like Once I say I'm English, the

eyebrows go back up and the lips uncurl. Now they are in this: "Where are you from?" "London." "Weil where were you ally publicly — then they will usu-ally put "black" in front of it shock. At times I have had to give the people a couple of minutes to compose them-selves. "I had no idea," said a white woman near Baton born?" "London."

"Well, before then?" and are not "There was no before as British. Rouge, Louisiana, in a tone my grandmother might use if then!" "Well, where are your I came out as a cross-dresser.

Then there was the woman | parents from?"

My parents came to Eng-land — where I was born to which the speakers called upon — God, the Constitution and the American flag. from Barbados in the early 1960s. Like many immigrants The NAACP may represent the "old school" of African-

they planned to stay for only a few years, work hard, earn some money and then return American politics, but throughout my time in the home. But like many immi-States I have met no Africanstarting a family and building a life. Blacks now make up about 3 per cent of the British American who does not place some faith in these common reference points. Britain, in contrast, has no written con-

Britain's sense of national identity is still trying to catch up. But in the meantime, questions like "Where are you from?" are often inter-preted to mean, "Please tell tion may be.

me you are not from here." Which is why meeting so many Americans with names like Gugliotta, Biskupic and Shapiro is so refreshing. Al-You would not get most everybody in the US is a Union Jack originally from somewhere else. Even the white people. And most people lay claim to another identity — Italian within five miles of a political meeting American, Irish-American, full of black people Hungarian-American which qualifies their Ameri-

can identity but does not nec-essarily undermine it. Black Briton does not come with a hyphen. These are two separate words, relating to two very distinct and often conflicting identities. If black people in Britain define themselves as British at all - I possible solution was 17 before I would admit it of the problem. to show that they do not see themselves as fully British and are not always accepted

I was amazed, on a recent

day-trip to Harper's Ferry. West Virginia, to see an all-white group of Cub Scouts learning all about how John Brown fought alongside black abolitionists and the legacy of Frederick Douglass. White kids learning about black history on a summer holiday day out: I felt like I had died and gone to heaven. On reflection, it was much

stitution, is far less religious, and you would not get a Union Jack within five miles of a political meeting full of black people, regardless of how moderate the organisa-tion may be more like purgatory. I know that one of the reasons Amer icans discuss race so much is because there is so much to talk about. Both the present (affirmative action, the de-mise of the inner cities, pov-erty, church burnings) and the past (civil rights, slavery, correction) offer no and of This may change in time.

segregation) offer no end of subjects that can and should be debated. Nevertheless, in England which has similar but no where near as acute social problems affecting the black

community, race ranks alongside sex, politics and religion as a topic not to be brought up in polite conversation. At the Guardian, I was once de-scribed to someone as "the But for now the difference seems stark. Black Americans who feel aggrieved can, and often do, look to the symshort, stocky guy with an earand offen do, look to the sym-bolism of their national flag as a form of redress. Black journalists in the building. Britons see their flag not as a In Washington, I look local possible solution but as part and sound foreign - an object of intrigue in public places. At home, I look for-For Americans, this seems to breed a kind of confidence | eign and sound local - and

that allows a more open dis everybody tries hard not to cussion of race issues than in notice. To say one is better or my country. During my inter-view for the fellowship at The be too simplistic. The bottom At the annual convention for the National Association for the Advancement of Col-black inurnalist in Britain.

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that decade. So I await her Lyttleton Theatre, I was surprised when a grand piano fall headlong from the roof, land very latest novel with the keenest anticipation. keenest anticipation. But — whoah, Bel! — the subject of today's column is not Margaret Drabble, novel-ist. It is in fact Margaret Drab-ble, younger sister of A S Byatt. And my message to them is this: a great big hug



PLEASE DON'T TURN THE PAGE

You could be Tsering's last hope. She has little or ho food to eat, and lives in a tiny, insanitary mud shack. Without help soon she could die.

Yet by sponsoring an elderly person like Tsering for just \$10 a month, you could provide the food, clothing and medicines they need to survive.

In return, you'll receive regular reports on your adopted grandparent. For more details, please complete the form below.

Yes, I'm interested in helping an elderly person overseas. Please sand me details.

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10 OBITUARIES

Sir Nigel Fisher

Loyal to the House

HERE was disappointment in the career of Nigel

Fisher, who has died aged 83, not least when he learnt on good authority that his name had been struck by the Prime Minister herself from the chief whip's list of nominations to the peerage in 1983, the year in which he stood down from the House of Commons, Mark, his son by his first marriage, was elected in the same year, but for the Labour Party. That did not displease Fisher: he played a part in Edward Heath's replaent by Margaret Thatcher but he was an open-minded man. He had charm and an agreeable manner, but not everyone liked him, since he took no trouble to conceal the high opinion he had of his own abilities. He will be better remembered for his writ-ings about politics than for the part he played himself.

Fisher was the son of a Royal Navy officer Sir Thomas Fisher, and the stepson of Sir Geoffrey Shake-speare, who married Fisher's widow in 1926. Shakespeare had been Lloyd George's secretary and first as a Liberal and then as a National Liberal MP he gave Fisher a grounding in history and politics. Their relationship was more that of father and son than stepson, and the two remained close. Educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, Fisher became a partner in a London firm of surveyors. In 1935 he married Gloria, the daughter of the 7th Earl of Lisburne, and with that came a passionate interest in Unionst politics which survived his divorce and was con

firmed by his 1956 marriage to Patricia Ford, Unionist MP for North Down from 1953 to 1955.

Fisher enlisted in the Welsh Guards in 1939. In 1940 he was did not preclude opposition to mentioned in despatches when an Irish Guards battal-ion and his own held out for several days against two Ger-man divisions before evacuation. Later, as a major, he lead his squadron in the liberation of Brussels. Shortly afterwards he was wounded in action and was given the immediate award of the MC for gallantry in the field. His political career began bill tonight." That cost him his place on with

defeat at Chislehurst in the 1922 committee executive

He realised overnight that he could not bear to give up politics - and his posting to Kenya was rescinded

the 1945 Conservative debacle.) and showed great moral courbut better fortune attended age; but Macleod congratu-lated him on the speech and him in 1950 when he won Hitshoriy afterwards, in July 1962, Fisher finally found him-self in government as parliachin back from Labour. When the Conservatives took office in 1951 he became parliamen mentary under secretary at tary private secretary to Gwilym Lloyd George at the Min-istry of Food and at the Home the Colonial Office. Here he developed a considerable ad-Office. After falling foul of his miration for his new chief, constituency association over Duncan Sandys. his divorce, he found a new Fisher first visited the Caseat in 1955 at Surbiton, which ribbean in the early 1950s and he represented for the rest of his parliamentary career. put that knowledge to use in an abortive effort to salvage His interest and belief in the something from the wreckag of the West Indian Federation Commonwealth. many of whose leaders became perin 1962. In October 1963 he was sonal friends, made him a moved sideways to serve as parliamentary under-secrekeen supporter of moves to give them early independence tary for Commonwealth af-fairs and in July 1964 was ofand he was a close friend of fered, and accepted, the post of Iain Macleod, who largely achigh commissioner in Kenya. complished that task bet

1959 and 1961. When Macleod Having made what he became party chairman in 1961, he included Fisher on thought would be his final speech in the House in July 1964, he realised overnight the chairman's committee that he could not bear to give up politics and next day, looking at future policy. But his friendship with Macleod ked by his wife, the formithe first Commonwealth Im-migrants Act, when Fisher concluded his speech wound-ingly with the remark that he believed him "absolutely sindable Patsie, he went to Sandys, who reluctantly agreed to rescind the appointment. When the Tories went into opposition in October 1964 he continued on the front cere in his Brighton speech when he talked of the brotherbench as a colonial and Commonwealth affairs spokeshood of man. I believe in it too, and it is because I believe man. The Conservative leader Edward Heath dropped him in 1966, but it took Fisher much in it that I cannot vote for this longer to accept that his ministerial career was over.

His continued liberalism notably over white Rhodesia's unflateral declaration of independence, lost him the vice chairmanship of the Conser-vative backbench Commonwealth affairs committee and led him into opposition to the Labour government's 1968 Commonwealth immigrants bill, when he voted in defiance of the party whip. This led to serious trouble with his constituency executive, but Macleod backed him and consider able pressure was brought to bear from Central Office. Fisher survived to fight the 1970 election. It did not bring him office and Macleod's death robbed him not only of a close friend but of a political patron. Instead Fisher devoted his energies to the party, serving on its executive committee from 1973 until 1983, and becoming an influ-ential member of the 1922 ex-ecutive, to which he had been re-elected in 1969. He published his warm and

at times vivid study of Iain Macleod in 1973, and both his advance and royalties were



Sir Nigel Fisher ... strong support for the Commonwealth

should have become a junior minister, he flourished as a given with typical generosity to Eve Macleod, who had been left with few resources. It was followed in 1977 by probably his best book, a study of the making and unmaking of The Tory Leaders, which drew on

Fisher's own knowledge of Heath's downfall and on nu-merous interviews. Like Iain Macleod, it is unlikely to lose its value as a source. His final book. Harold Macmillan, is unlikely to command the same attention. Fisher lost his wife last

year. He was a man of cour-age, wit, and unswerving po-litical principle.

Dixon writes Nigel Fisher was one of the last Conservative MPs to have Sir Nigel Thomas Loveridge Fisher, politician, born July 14 1913; died October 9, 1996 entered politics out of a sense of duty. Amazed that he

centres of sex-for-sale nightlife. They are also the legacy associated with Udom Pat-Contrary to mythology they did not thrive off GIs back pongsiri, who has died aged 79 and was dubbed the father of Thailand's sex industry. Like other popular western notions of Thailand, the sobriquet was misplaced. A former London School of Economics student, Udom never owned

Bangkok's Patpong

Road are one of the

world's most notorious

Udom Patpongsiri

A name in the

street of shame

or managed the bars that represent to foreigners the fabled Thai sex trade. He was a landowner who developed a nearvacant plot near what is now the city's commercial centre, and grew vastly wealthy as a landlord to the go-go bars and sex shows that moved in and thrived on foreign dollars. Udom's parents had moved

to Thailand from China's Hainan Island and sent him first to Thai schools; he then studied at the LSE from 1936-39 before taking a business studies degree at the Univer-sity of Minnesota, so that Udom was in the US when

war with Japan broke out. The Thai government took a pro-Axis stance but Udom opt-ed for the Free Thai Movement that backed the Allies. He was among 14 Thais who last year were belatedly awarded their "wings" from the Fort Benning US military academy for wartime parachute jumps during training for projected drops into Thailand as resistance agents; the war ended before they could be undertaken.

Soon after the war, Udom's father Poonpat made the investment that was to make his family among the richest in Thailand. For the equivahotels

city. The family decided to build a road linking one major thoroughfare with what at the time was a canal and is now one of the most congested, bank-lined arteries. As Bangkok started its 1950s sprawl Udom developed Patpong as a name business centre, luring many

HE neon-lit bars of | moved out in search of bigger premises or different loca-tions, bars and nightclubs rushed in. Udom always maintained he never sough to bring them or keep them

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from the Vietnam war but from the civilian contractors and other foreign business lured by the wartime econo-my. After the war Patpong flourished from Thailand's accelerating economy and booming tourist trade. Behind the tawdry veneer, Patpong is little more than a couple of rows of modest concrete shophouses and a few office buildings. Yet as the city prospered Patpong found itself in the heart of its prosperous financial and comm

The Guardian Friday October 11 1996

cial belt, and Udom was quick to keep rents in line with soaring real estate values." He remained a slight, mod-est figure. He was fond of his liquor, reputedly followed a time-honoured local tradition of keeping a succession of minor wives and manage every detail of the family business, which included sub-stantial property outside Bangkok.

HETHER to soften the hard sex image or merely broader its tourist appeal Patpong added a night market in the late 1980s that is thought to pour millions of pounds in rents each month into the family coffers. These kinds of numbers are what has allowed Patpong to en-dure as the surrounding area started to bristle with gleam-ing high-rise office blocks and

But Udom's death will place a question mark over the future of what is one of Bangkok's most priceless pieces of undeveloped real estate. Other family members in past years argued for opening Pat-

In the months or years to come, family fingers will be flying over their electronic abacuses to check and perhaps change the fortunes of the street that bears their

Ludmilla Chiriaeff _eading life's drama a merry dance



John Barnet

loyal subordinate to Reginald Maudling and Duncan Sandys but his mentor remained Iain Macleod. Fisher may not have be an arbiter of great political events, but he was a humorous and affectionate commentator on those events. Like any good journalist he remained self-effacing, but perhaps the most moving tribute to him came in that letter

which Macleod wrote when right-wing constituency activ-ists tried to deselect him in 1969. "I have written to the Times. I have written to Willy (William Whitelaw, the Conervative Chief Whip) and

said that if you go, I go too."

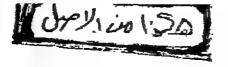
lent of just 2,360 US dollars he bought a house and land on what was then the edge of Bangkok: it now ranks among the real estate sems of the

pong to the developers.

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Friday October 11 1996

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Friday October 11 is

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Traders cash in on consumer demand, page 12

Pick up a pension as you shop, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

Insurance switch in doubt NatWest rolls

Government's action plan in turmoil as ABI's Smee resigns

Pauline Springett

HE Government's plans to hand over large parts of health, pensions and long term care insurance to the private sec tor have been thrown into

doubt following the resignation of the senior executive handling the issue for the insurance industry. Paul Smee, the head of life business for the Association

of British Insurers, has decided to leave at the end of the month, just two years after he oined the industry. Mr Smee admitted yester-day that there had been prob-

lems drawing up a plan for action over the Government's programme, but publicly de-

nied any confrontation with the ABI's members, which in-clude companies such as Pruwarning the Government that extra regulation will be dential, Norwich Union and needed if they are to sell long-term care insurance policies. Roval Sun Alliance. He said: "There has been no Senior figures are worried

policy disagreement and no that rampant sales forces will conspiracy. But there is a target the old and infirm with

catastrophe such as that in-volving personal pensions and equity release schemes. One executive said that problem with getting an agenda defined." nothing short of a US-style But insurance industry inregulatory system controlled by a body like the Securities siders say Mr Smee, who will join the Independent Televiand Exchange Commission would be sufficient to keep sion Commission, became increasingly frustrated at the the industry in check. industry's failure to agree on They are also concerned that the industry has not yet how pensions, health and long-term care insurance

should be handled

bacle behind them.

Mr Smee joined the ABI

from the Stock Exchange, where he was head of public policy and international rela-tions, and was regarded as an

extremely able thinker join-

ing an industry not noted for its intellectual calibre.

It is understood that insur-

ance industry executives are

addressed the issue of fund-ing private health cover for a He is also understood to large proportion of the popuhave grown impatient with lation, particularly when hos-pital and GP costs are rising the insurance companies' un-willingness to put the perin an unquantifiable way. sonal pensions mis-selling de Steven Bird, insurance ana-

better than others

expensive insurance products and this could result in a

Paul Smeet Denies lyst at Merrill Lynch com policy disagreement mented: "The companies are vaiting for the Government

to say it will cap the losses at a certain level. On long-term care, the industry is probably not prepared to take on that The mis-selling row is now largely in the past -- although many still await compensation - but there is a growing risk, say, of looking after someone for 20 to 30 years after they become disabled." concern that an "expectations gap" is opening up on private pensions --- which both politi-Industry sources deny that there is a rift between the cal party sources now regard as a panacea.

most powerful companies al-Public perception of a penthough some, such as Pruden tial, clearly appear to have de sion is that it offers a guaran-teed financial cushion for vised a strategy to cope with retirement. Failure to live up changes in government policy to the expectation could triguse compensation claims

Increased tax on premiums will hit exports and wipe firms out, says NCM

BRITISH exports could be badly hit and hundreds of

rarned vesterday The warning followed the

surance premium tax (IPT) was introduced in 1594 A spokesman for NCM Credit Insurance, the world's

largest private credit insurer, said that increasing IPT was likely to make British goods less competitive overseas. He said this was despite the fact

that IPT was charged only on domestic credit insurance and not on export credi premiums. Credit insurance covers usinesses for non-payment of debts by their customers

The spokesman explained that transactions of goods be-tween UK companies were often covered by domestic credit insurance, and the IPT usually passed on to the

buyer in the form of higher prices. If those goods are sub equently sold overseas - for instance a machine part might be incorporated into a machine which is exported -

they will consequently cost more than if no IPT existed. O THE average custome of NatWest — struggling to obtain any sense from "The final destination of goods traded between UK their local branch -- the deal firms is often overseas. The just signed between NatWest Markets and Hambro Magan mock on effect of IPT on do mestic credit insurance for

will be fairly perplexing. Here is Britain's largest domestic such goods can thus make UK exports less competitive. NCM fully backs the Associabank, with a huge shareholder, customer and staff base, refusing to share with tion of British Insurers' campaign not only to prevent a damaging increase in the rate of IPT, but to get the tax actuanyone the cost of its blg move into top-bracket investment banking. Yet this advenally withdrawn," the NCM pokesman added. He also warned that, if the ture has an impact on all stakeholders in NatWest.

Shareholders, who have had to live with NatWest's past mistakes in, for instance. IPT were raised, it could deter UK companies from taking out credit insurance. North American retail bank

golden dice

ney. Lloyds Bank chose the personal sector and NatWest investment banking. The latter is fashionable and seems a reasonable direction Edited by Alex Brummer

in which to move. However, it should be noted that NatWest's past experience with entrepreneurial mer-chant banking — remember the Blue Arrow affair? — ended in disaster not just for County NatWest, but for the then senior management at NatWest, bringing the cur-rent team, headed by Lord Alexander, to office. No doubt many lessons have been learnt since then. But timing is apparently not one of them. The strong bull market, on both sides of the Atlantic, is arguably near its peak. A change of government in London could change the whole chemistry of the mergers and acquisitions market as well as the attitude of the competition authorities which police M&A. This is not the deal made in heaven of which NatWest Markets chief Martin Owen is so proud.

Clarke's amnesia

HATEVER his short-Kenneth Clarke of lacking chutzpah. There he was, bold as brass, in Bournemouth yesterday lampooning Denis Healey for presiding over "Britain's worst post-war financial crisis" back in 1976. The worst post-war crisis? Surely not. What about 16 September 1992, when sterling crashed out of the Ex-change Rate Mechanism, de-spite all the Government's protestations that it would defend the rate of 2.95 marks come hell or high water? Was that not a financial crisis of some magnitude?

Apparently not. Black Wednesday seems to have been wiped from the Conserthree years — an overhead hurtling towards a quarter of vative Party's memory alto-gether. There was not the NatWest Markets has long cherished the ambition to move into the corporate fislightest recognition yester-day that the economic recovery gloried in by the conference had anything at nance big league. In a global-ised world of financial mar-kets dominated by firms such all to do with the total aban-donment of a policy respon-



WO OF the biggest names on the British high street, Boots and Marks-& Spencer, are expanding overseas, writes Tony May. M&S opened a 50,000 sq ft the first in Germany. The group now has 32 stores in continental Europe and will open another, in Bordeaux, France, next week.

Boots said it was spending £30 million to open eight stores in Thailand and the Netherlands in 1997, and #



Pauline Springett businesses fail if insurance

premium tax is increased in next month's Budget, the credit insurance group NCM Guardian's revelation this

week that the insurance in-dustry was bracing itself for a doubling of the tax by the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, in a move which would raise an extra £640 million for the Treasury. The 25 per cent in-

plans further stores in Japan. Boots --- which last tried its hand at overseas expansion in Canada in the 1980s but failed to make money - described the ventures as "a trial". It also has plans for a further 150 stores in the UK. The company will make an announcement about the Japan operations shortly, but said its partner in Thailand would be the Minor Group.

Boots said the lack of regu-lation over medicine distribution in the Netherlands helped the decision to open there. Drug seles will be handled by EVA, a healthcare provider.

Vision of St Michael . . . shoppers in Cologne queue up for the opening of the first Marks & Spencer store in Germany

PHOTOGRAPH: ARND WEG

tion in gas supply in the

vice outlawing unautho-rised advertising which

Stanley, JP Morgan and BZW, it has looked curiously undersible for needless unemployment, bankruptc repossession and hardship. powered. It sought to address this issue when it bought into the entrepreneurial Wall Street firm Gleacher. With the absorption of the creative talent of Hambro Magan — which it is putting together with Gleacher — it may well feel it has engineered a better deal than if its earlier attempt to buy NM Rothschild had been successful. Certainly, it is possible to

put together an entrepreneur-ial house with a more traditional markets operation and create added value: that seems to have happened at SBC Warburg. Although some corporate finance clients have been lost. Warburg under SBC ownership has flourished, as has Barings under the wing of ING. Moreover, survival in the world of globalised investment bank-

But Conservative amnesia over the ERM is but part of its neatly packaged story. Even the Government could not summon up the nerve to sug-gest that the recession didn't happen, but ministers have worked up a nice line in deflecting criticism. Britain, like other countries, was buffeted by an uncontrollable

bankruptcy.

global downturn: now it is en-joying an upturn caused en-tirely by Tory policies. Simple, really. And if the recession was

not the Government's fault. how could it be to blame for the tax increases that followed? On the contrary, Mr Clarke explained, the Conservative instinct was to cut taxes and reduce borrowing. Labour, on the other hand, was thirsting to spend before it had earned, to run up debts ing means hanging on to the best and most loyal staff: hence the golden handcuffs. and put up taxes.

In Bournemouth, all this It was inevitable, once went down a storm. The faith-NatWest was shot of its North ful loved it. Come next spring, American banking operation, that it would be looking for the public may be less understanding. somewhere to spend the

Lloyd's starts court **battle with Names**

lion from the dissidents. Yes Pauline Springett

terday's writs sought between £50 million and £60 million in LOYD'S of London ves total. terday fired off the first Several well-known Names within the Lloyd's market writs to Names who are were on the list, including Tony Gooda, the former still refusing to pay their

losses and who have failed to chairman of Gooda & Partsign up to the insurance marners, the Lloyd's agency which advised more than 250 ket's 23.2 billion rescue deal. Lloyd's has constantly Names. The Gooda Names suffered some of the worst warned it would mercilessly pursue the remaining 1,850 losses in Lloyd's. recalcitrant Names to pay up. The Names officially had

Another high-profile Name on yesterday's writ list was Robin Kingsley, chairman of until the end of August to sign up to the settlement package, but Lloyd's has the Lime Street Agency, which placed Names on the allowed latecomers to join in. Yesterday's batch of 125 loss-making Feltrim and writs is expected to be the Gooda Walker syndicates. Many of the dissident first of several which will be lodged with the High Court Names have joined a new

action group, the United over the next few weeks. A second batch may be sent to Names Organisation, which he court today. Lloyd's is seeking £500 mil-legal defence against Lloyd's.

TOURIST RATES -- BANK SELLS

the court today.

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Leeson boss claims £½m from Barings

Sarah Whitebioom Birthdays

4

ARKLY healed wounds are set to be re-opened next week when a former Barings Brothers execu-tive — a boss of the failed rogue trader Nick Leeson claims half a million pounds from the bank for "unpaid bonuses". in a departure from usual

Square Mile etiquette, the American banker Mary Walz is taking her case to the Strat-ford industrial tribunal in

London's East End. She claims that Barings, now owned by the Dutch ING group, owes her around f500,000 for work she did before the bank's collapse in February 1995.

Ms Walz and 20 other senior Barings staff left after the £830 million disintegra-tion of the historic institution. None of them received bonuses, although many staff retained by Barings' new owners did receive productiv-ity pay-outs. It is understood some £90 million was paid out by ING - largely to retain Barings' staff at a critical time.

Ms Walz, who was Barings' London-based global head of equity financial products. was in Leeson's direct chain of command. It is believed she had daily contact with the disgraced dealer, who was jailed East area have been told they for six and a half years in Sin- will not face charges.

gapore earlier this year for his role in bringing the bank

emerged that industry watch-dog Clare Spottiswoode has demanded a detailed report to its knees. It is thought that Ms Walz's It is inought that his wait's claimed bonus is based in part on the huge profits sup-posedly generated by Mr Lee-son's activities. Her action is certain to from the company into the Dasco. Admitting that further let-ters from its debt collection

agency, the pre-court division of "Moorcroft Debt Recovcause considerable embarrassment in the City, where the Barings débacle — which ery", could be mistakenly issued in the weeks ahead. the Barings débacle the Barings depacts — which seriously undermined the Square Mile's reputation — is BG promised to consider com-pensating the 150 customers viewed as a matter best left to

historians. Along with other senior executives, Ms Walz is directly criticised in the Bank of England's report on the Barings affair. According to the report "Neither Ron Baker-... nor Walz... had, in our view, any real understanding

of the nature or true profit potential of ... apparent trading activities."

Strom Sweden. and Mitzi, the strict mis-Barings refused to com-ment yesterday on the indus-trial tribunal case — which is set to be heard at a prelimitress of Mayfair, will be sitting by the phone rather longer in future. British Tenary session on Monday. Several former Barings ex-

lecom has decided that they ecutives are still awaiting have been getting too many final rulings from the Securi-ties and Futures Authority -calls from punters. It has barred incoming calls to their phones and threatened to do the same the City regulatory body - on their roles in the affair. The to hundreds of other prosti-SFA is making no comment about its disciplinary action until the procedures have run tutes who advertise their services on explicit cards in their full course. Barings bosses in Mr Leeson's old Far

coming calls to certain numbers after warning let-ters sent to the subscribers were ignored.

were ignored. BT announced in August that it would take action against such advertisers, particularly where the practice was most rampant - central London, Brighton and neighbouring

The first stage in its campaign was collecting the cards advertising the pros-titutes' services, and then checking the numbers. Any number found on the

cards is fed into a computer and the customer is sent a The telecom group letter asking them to stop paign against the prosti-revealed yesterday that it advertising. If the number inter and their cards, it is a its own had started blocking in- continues to be found, a mundane clause in its where.

<u>/</u>.. _. .-

A BT spokesman said yes-terday that every week its because the removing the second the second secon about 150,000 cards from central London kiosks and about 20,000 from ones in

sent incorrect letters so far. It | by Ms Spottiswoode and Mike | the introduction of competi-indmitted another 250 custom Alexander, managing direction in gas supply in the ers had received reminder tor of British Gas Trading. Ms | region.

Spottiswoode and her officials

at Ofgas are understood to be concerned at BG's ability to

cope with growing problems

Brighton and Hove. The contractors are accompanied by security guards to protect them from being intimidated by people who earn £10 for every 100 of the cards that they plaster the klosks with. While BT is taking a high moral tone in its cammodern BT box with one of ; its own new kiosks else-

the traditional red kiosks designed by Sir Giles Gil-bert Scott has been settled out of court. BT is to keep the right to the distinctive kiosks, now mainly used in conservation or scenic areas. But, where NWP is prevented from installing its klosk because the local authority insists on the old-style kiosks, it will be entitled to replace a

The Gas Consumers Coun-cil said yesterday that com-plaints from the public about bills had soared by 107 per cent over the last six months in its £150 million billing to 12,858 cases. The consumer watchdog system. The company has already issued wrong reminders and disconnection notices to thousaid some customers in the South-west had been "so worsands of customers in London ried by the threatening tone of the letter ... that they were on the point of phoning and the South-east, the east of England and East Anglia, and through their credit card numbers to the agency to pay the North. Although the south-western

problem centres on customers bills they did not recognise who have switched from BG It would bring the matter to the attention of the Trade and Industry Secretary, Ian Lang. If Ofgas felt unable to act. to new gas suppliers, the com-pany insisted that the difficul-ties were unconnected with

Busty blondes lose BT connection

British Gas apologises for threats

letters for bills they did not

BG said it would take sev-

eral weeks to resolve prob-lems with its computerised

Although this particular hitch had been solved, there was no guarantee others

A spokesman said: "We

cannot guarantee anything, except that we are pouring all the resources that we can into

resolving the network diffi-

The problem, revealed in

the Guardian yesterday, was raised at a meeting attended

billing system.

would not arise.

culties."

Hove.

Micholas Bannister Technology Editor

Chris Barris Business Correspondent

British Gas apologised yesterday for wrongly demanding payments

from 400 customers in the South-west of England as it

12 FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

The Guardian Friday October 11 1996

One water firm offends court every fortnight

licholas Bannis Cechnology Editor

OURTS are finding Britain's water courses environmental damage every two or three weeks, the head of the Environmental Agency said yesterday. Ed Gallagher told a London

conference that the water in-dustry had lost public support since privatisation in 1990 after a series of public rela-tions disasters, including big boardroom pay rises.

As a result, people were less willing to help companies by conserving water. During the 1976 drought 80 per cent of people stopped watering their gardens and 70 per cent flushed their toilets less. "There are few who would be-lieve the public would act in the same way today," he said.

"An industry whose compa-nies continually end up in court for pollution offences, that under-invests in research and development, and does not meet society's expectations for standards of

service will not only alienate customers but also sharehold-ers of the 21st century." He criticised the loss

in the United States. He called for an investment

programme to win back public confidence and urged companies to increase research and development spending. which was far too low at 1 per cent of industry turnover. He suggested that job cuts, instead of increasing productivity, may have reduced standards to an unacceptable level. "There have been al-

most 250 successful prosecutions of water companies for environmental damage since privatisation," he said. "On average, a water company has been found guilty once every two or three weeks,

"The company with the worst record has just received a fine and costs of over £200,000 for its 43rd offence, but most fines imposed by th courts are a fraction of this." Speaking at the same con-ference, water industry regulator Ian Byatt said that his role was primarily concerned with economic performance.

water through leakages and the lack of investment that allowed it to happen but ations, on the other hand, poured scorn on those who rightly involve politicians."

Regulators are given eco nomic objectives and are judged against whether their decisions foster them ... sectoral and social consider-

News in brief

Imro review largely clears fund managers

CITY watchdog Imro is to ask a handful of fund managers to tighten up their controls over investments in unquoted stock. it aid yesterday after completion of a unit trust review triggered by last month's £200 million debacle at Morgan Grenfell. Giving the vast majority of fund managers a clean bill of health, imro stressed that none of the small number of the

control lapses identified by the review were serious and said it did not anticipate taking "any further investigatory action". The review, which focused on unquoted stocks held by unit trusts, concluded that improvements could be made to "various control processes" and noted that some managers placed "too great a reliance upon a single independent pricing source". Yesterday, Imro said it was writing to fund managers, "pointing out the necessity of verifying independent pricing sources to check on the accuracy of valuations relating to unquoted ecurities". Just 13 per cent of 1,669 authorised unit irusts accounting for some £100 billion of investors' money - hold unquoted stock, with the average value estimated at 1.79 per cent of the portfolio. City rules generally bar an investment

greater than 10 per cent. — Richard Miles

blamed water shortages on leakages. He pointed out that water consumption in Britain was only a third of that in France and an eighth of that

slams dumb potball' by Lions

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28.75 million Manchester airport Skylink walkway, with more steel than 14 Boeing 737s, which opened yesterday, linking with the rail station

Stores create headache for Clarke as they cash in on rising demand to increase prices

Jpbeat shoppers fuel inflation

hold up.

Sarah Ryle and Richard Thomas

GH street traders cashed in on rising consumer demand last month to in crease prices, refuelling pressure on the or, Kenneth Clarke, to raise interest rates.

According to the latest snapshot of retail activity from the CBI, published today, sales volume grew strongly in September com-pared to a year ago, although expansion was not as fast as in August.

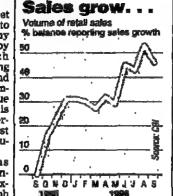
Separate figures published yesterday showed that demand enabled traders to push prices up, with underlying in-flation creeping up from 2.8 per cent in August to 2.9 per cent last month. Clothing and footwear price rises, up 5.2

began in 1947. Hopes that the high street recovery will feed through to other sectors of the economy were given a fresh boost by the CBI survey, which showed retailers increasing

merce quarterly report, due to be published next week, is expected to show that the service sector is at its strongest this decade, with even manu-

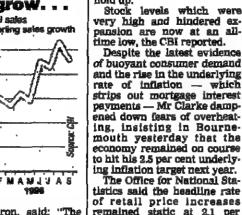
facturing picking up. Despite BCC concerns about weakness in continental export markets, it is expected to report that the job shedding by big employers is over. That would further fuel consumer demand, supporting retailers' optimistic outlook for sales volumes next

month — as reported in the CBI survey. The chairman of the CBI's per cent, were the strongest distributive trades survey, sured by the three monthly



Alastair Eperon, sald: "The rate of growth in retail trade eased in September, disappointing companies' expectations of a further pick-up. However, the underlying

growth in volumes, as mea-



to hit his 2.5 per cent underlying inflation target next year. The Office for National Statistics said the headline rate of retail price increases remained static at 2.1 per cent, with higher house prices, heftier private school fees and dearer fuel offset by

moving average, continues to

cuts in mortage payments by a string of building societies. The flat headline inflation rate means that pensioners —

,so do prices

vhose payments are uprated in line with the September retail orice index --- will see a much lower cash increase in their weekly pensions than last year, when inflation hit 3.9 per cent.

backed Mr Clarke's nochange policy on interest rates, but pointed to signs that some retailers were tak-ing advantage of cheaper wholesale goods to widen profit margins rather than passing on lower prices from the factory gate to shoppers. The 5.2 per cent increase in clothes and footwear between August and September particularly fuelled market concerns about nascent inflation ary pressure. The two pence per litre rise in fuel prices, as the war with supermarket forecourts eased, also increased concerns.

say."

rebuild margins? Too early to

Jonathan Loynes, an econo mist at brokers HSBC Markets, said the figures were

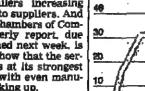
slightly disappointing, given the recent falls in producer price inflation: "Does this increase represent the begin-nings of a full-scale attempt to

modern technology and

City analysts said the data

since the retail price index

their orders to suppliers. And the British Chambers of Com-



Don't forget: Sprouts, marge, bacon, imported French beer, a portable pension — and buy in a few kilowatts for the winter

Power play to sweep up sales at supermarket

Chris Barris and Simon Beavis

ATIONAL Power and PowerGen want to link up with supermarkets to shatter the stranglehold of the regional electricity com-panies over domestic customer

The generators have held talks with leading chains such as Tesco, Sainsbury and Asda about offering energy packages — including gas supplies — to their customers. The moves would repre-sent the boldest diversification by supermarkets since they plundered a quarter of

the petrol market. Similarly, the Automobile Association said yesterday it had held talks with a number of parties about selling ener-

If a Rec was also a partner, the generator could be sure that a predictable quantity of power would be needed: Recs child, the electricity industry regulator, as a way of break-ing attempts by the regional companies (Recs) to obstruct the introduction of competi-tion in 1998. From April 1 that

domestic customers until competition has been operate year, 25 million domestic electricity consumers will be free to shop around for the cheaping for some time. The plans follow the Gov-

est power. One large supermarket said ernment's decision last April to block bids by the genera-tors for Recs. National Power it was "very interested" in the energy market but con-cerned about its lack of expeand PowerGen had sought to buy Southern Electric and rience. A senior executive said one solution was to enter Midlands Electricity for £2.5 billion and £1.95 billion, respectively. Trade and Inthe market allied with an established player. Customers could pay for their energy dustry Secretary Ian Lang ve-toed the takeovers under pressure from Tory right-wingers concerned that comand groceries together at the check-out. The generators are thought

petition could be stifled. to be contemplating a range of partnerships, including joint The supermarkets may run foul of consumer organisaventures of up to two Recs with a supermarket chain or tions keen to prevent "cherrypicking". Regional electricity y to its members. Talks were at a "very early stage". The move may be welcomed by Professor Stephen Little-ment with two Recs, and is Note that are the forced and gas suppliers are forced to supply low income custom-ers, but it is unclear how this might apply to supermarkets. to supply low income customers, but it is unclear how this

seeking similar deals with up to three others. The company may also develop sales di-rectly, exploiting the brand name it has promoted through sponsorship of TV weather forecasts. put pensions weather forecasts. The generators stand to gain by securing outlets for their power. By selling at wholesale prices to retailers, they could offset failing pool in your trolley

Richard Milles

UYING a pension may are likely to hold on to most Bas picking up your groceries after Liberty International, a property and financial services company, yesterday unveiled plans to sell pensions

through some of the UK's biggest shopping malls. Liberty said it intends to start offering pensions early next year to the mil-lions of shoppers who pass each day through its malls, including Lakeside Thur-rock and the MetroCentre in Gateshead, pending ap-proval from the Depart-ment of Trade and Industry.

The £50 million venture is being backed by the BT pension scheme, the UK's largest pension fund with over £20 billion of savers' Blake Dempster, manag-money under its control. It ing director of the new

Competition in the pen-sions market is likely to in-tensify later this year when Virgin Direct, the financial services company founded by Richard Branson, enters the arena, offering savers a has taken a 10 per cent stake in the new company, Liberty International Donald Gordon, chair-man of Liberty, said the company's goal was to be-come the "moral" supplier of pensions to both individrange of cut-price pensions over the telephone. Liberty yesterday also announced a joint venture

with Hermes, manager of the BT and Post Office peruals and companies, at a time when the pensions insion funds, to provide fund

he said.

Millions of trips to Lakeside and MetroCentre prompt paradigm

dustry "is in a state of fun- | management services to damental transition" company pension schemes. Mr Gordon said the focus As part of the deal, the BT pension scheme, whose of its individual pension business would be through trustees own Hermes, is transferring £1.5 billion of assets held in two tracker the malls, adding that there are "150 million visits" to its shopping malls each funds — which mirror the performance of the stockmarket — to the manage-ment of Liberty.

Choices plan under inquiry

company, said he intended to undercut the traditional pension providers by using AN "investment plan" offering subscribers returns of up to 275

per cent is in the hands of the Official Receiver after action by the Department of Trade and Industry. Principle Choice — Incorpo-rated in the Seychelles and promoted in Britain through Bourne-mouth-based Prime Marketing Associates — faces a High Court paying no commission to middleman. "We need to see a paradigm shift in the UK with pensions becoming available for everybody." bearing on November 6 to shut it down "in the public interest". The organisation operated under the name Choices UK as a club for members; benefits included the right to invest in a money plan offering returns of £75 to £82.50 for each £30 put in. Anyone believing they have funds at risk with Principle Choice should contact the insolvency service at 21 Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1. — Dan Atkinson

65,000 escape equity trap

RISING house prices have pulled 65,000 homeowners out of negative equity in the last three months, according to the Wool-wich Building Society.

A 0.6 per cent rise in national house prices during the third quarter helped to reduce the estimated number of households in negative equity to 475,000 — the first time the number has fallen below half a million since the middle of 1990. — *Ian Wyile*

Mannesmann sells TI stake

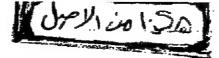
TI, the engineering group, said yesterday that Mannesmann, its German shareholder, had sold its 8.9 per cent stake in the com-pany. Mannesmann, a shareholder in TI for more than seven years, sold at 532p a share.

Joachim Funk, Mannesmann's chief executive, said its invest-tent in TI had been satisfactory, but his company would focus of investments in telecommunications, engineering and automotive activities. TI shares closed down 10p at 554%p. — Ian King

LIG pulls out of Carolina

LONDON International Group, which makes Dures condoms, announced plans yesterday to close its condom factory in South Carolina, with the loss of 200 permanent and 150 temporary jobs. LIG shares closed down 1p at 158p. — Ian King





Lion Red Cup XIII 22 Great Britain 22 Larder slams 'dumb football' by Lions

Rugby League

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Andy Wilson in Auckland

G REAT BRITAIN were brought back to earth with a bang at Carlaw Park yesterday after their Test-record 72-4 victory in Fill, finishing up only the width of a post away from defeat by what is effec-tively the Kiwis' 3rd XIII and left in no doubt about what to expect by the what to expect in their three-match series against New Zealand. "It should not have been

a tough game but we made it tough by playing dumb football," said the British coach Phil Larder. "We were too ambitious. We have flair and skill but we have to harness that by learning that there is a time to play adventurons football and a time to lay the foundation."

The Lion Red Cup XIII. drawn entirely from a domestic competition which is predominantly amateur and plundered by the Auckland Warriors and foreign clubs, would have ended the tourists' unbeaten re-cord if the former Wakefield stand-off David Bailey had not hit the post with a drop-goal attempt in the closing minutes of a compelling match.

"After Fiji this will be a good guide for the British of the challenge they have on with the Kiwis," said Graeme Norton, a former Auckland player who guested for Kent Invicta and is now earning a name as a coach after guiding



Full on, Keiron . . . the hard-running Great Britain hooker Cunningham attempts to barge his way through in Auckland

cal of his team — the same starting 13 which set the record in Fiji — and a cava-lier attitude to possession that saw them make nearly 20 handling errors. "We played very badly," he said. "That was not the way we had trained."

Be that as it may, his men played some spectacular at-tacking football. Stuart Spruce secured his place at New Zealand through the inaugural Super League Nines in February. The Lions face the Kiwis' from dummy-half when the box by a 90-yard individual try home half-back Ben Lythe,

more excellent scores to turn a 20-10 deficit into a 23-20 lead in a commanding 15 minutes midway through the second half. But the best came in the frantic closing stages, as the captain Andrew Farrell and the teenaged Leeds for-ward Adrian Morley launched the Lions on raid after raid into the heart of the Reds' defence.

Second XIII, in the shape of Lions were trailing 14-4 on side penalty, his fifth goal lington on Tuesday. Larder was sharply criti-Larder was sharply critichances to steal a win in British attack, Anthony the final minutes. Twice the Lions worked promis-Sullivan went over in the left corner only for the local referee Grant Wallace ing positions and twice they were let down by handling errors from the to rule the final pass from Powell forward. stopgap half-back pairing of Tulsen Tollett and lestyn Harris, thrown together Sullivan had scored the Lions' first try after Denis Betts reacted first to a miswhen Bobbie Goulding limped off 10 minutes from directed Goulding bomb, but Betts and Brian McDertime with a worrying recurmott were hauled off 10

rence of his foot injury. After the second blunder After the second blunder the Reds forged into the British quarter to set up Bailey's final drop-goal at-the former Warrington

Pat Eddary 4 D Nam 14 T Color 10 K Darley 11 J Reid 13

W Ryan 12 .0 Hind 1#

.L. Newten 13 .R Ffrench (5) 8

.C Admitte 1 .R Baller (2) 11

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A Daily 12 the (20 A Luc Ried Cap XHI Hohau; Gardner, Hon Red Cap XHI Hohau; Gardner, Fakavambanga, Malietoa-Brown, R Seewar; Balley, Lythe, D Stewart, Bullow, Aloa, Edwards, Adams, Huybeb Sabathutes; Jamieson, Tato, Nalson, Kolemeta Kelemete Referete Powell, Builivan: Harris, Gouldin Broadbent, Cumlingham, McDerm Betts, Scutherpe, Farrell, Substitut Follett, Morley, Motloy. Reference G Wallace (New Zeuland).

Auckland Under-19s. Haliminutes later after the fax's Craig Dean scored two tries in a fine display at scrum-half but the Leeds forward Nick Fozzard was trained a small team of point-sin-binned for brawling. to-pointers.

VICTORIA MAT7HERS

SPORTS NEWS 13

Racing

Kinane role crucial in **Oscar bid**

Chris Hawkins

to stay two miles although he

on November 5.

the ride.

could well prove decisive. He certainly has more class than Vintage Crop who won with ast 10lb.

SCAR Schindler, Oscar Schindler, trained by Kevin Prendergast, thus joins third in last Sun-day's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, has Ian Balding's Grey Shot, been confirmed a definite runner in the Melbourne Cup whose costly passage to Aus-tralia (estimated at over £30,000) has already been Oliver Lehane, the colt's owner, has been persuaded to booked. There is abundant prize-

money in the big handicap, however, with £684,200 to the winner and place money down to fifth. Those finishing sixth, run by Mick Kinane, successful in the race on Vintage Crop in 1993, who will take

"Mick believes he is 71b seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth get what is called a "starter's rebate" which amounts to £14,354 each. Cost well-in in the Melbourne race whereas he would need to improve 7lb to have any chance in the Breeders' Cup in Toronto," said Lehane. There is no denying Oscar of entry is £6,220. No decision has yet been

Schindler looks well handi-capped with 8st 13lb on his run in the Arc, particularly as he would have finished a good second if given even a made about whether Classic Cliche, last in the Arc, will run although he has gone into quarantine just in case. "He seems well but we

half-decent ride. Once again won't decide until next week," said Simon Crisford, racing manager of Godolphin Cash Asmussen overdid the waiting tactics in a big race. The doubt about Oscar racing, who incidentally reports Halling in good shape Schindler, who is by Royal Academy, must be his ability for the Champion Stakes

tomorrow week. Hill's make Oscar Schindler favourite for the Cup at 5-1 with Classic Cliche won the Irish St Leger over a mile and three-quarters with complete authority. It is in his favour that this at 14-1 and Grey Shot at 25's. Peter Chapple-Hyam's Court Of Honour is another possible fine, big colt travels well on the bit in his races and takes little out of himself. If he gets the trip his finishing speed runner. He is rated a 50-1 chance.

Grant to take up training

CHRIS Grant, the former leading jumps jockey, has received a National Hunt "Although I said when I gave up riding that I would never train, I have enjoyed training licence and will kick off with his first runners in about three weeks' time, Ane Academy side launched their three-Junior-Test New Zealand four with a 48-16 win over Auckland Under 100 How writes Chris Hawkins. horses at his farm at Wolvis-

training the point-to-pointers so much that we have now decided to give it a go," explained Grant. At Ascot this afternoon

Newport Knight (2.00) looks one of the best bets in the Bol-linger Handicap for amateur riders. This consistent five-year-

ton, near Sedgefield. For the last 18 months old has some useful form and Grant and his wife Sue have last time out failed by a shorthead to deny the prolific Pistol at Bath.

A P McCay #

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Ascot card with guide to the latest form

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Nghthini (Doncactor 64, Gd). #ENCLASS COP Frommeni, led over 11 out, nen on well, som by 43 from Silk St. John (Lingheid 71, Gd) TERCREDULL Lad over 73, begind 11 out, relified close kome, 13 2nd bini Highschrid (Nermanist, 17, Gd) #LOT GOBLike Headway St.out, every chance final karlong, no astra. 12 Statibini Royai Americka (Chaptio 4) 15 71, Gd-Fm) 3* HIG ACES Headway and switched 21 cst, led Inside last, ran on, won by 12 from Daywise (Heyd ionie: R, Gol). I CANFT Reservations: Trusted leaders, ran on one pace fine 2, 8 5th bird Heart Full of Soul (Warwick fin. 4.15 WYNOHAN HANDICAP Im 46yds 23,528 4.15 WYNCHAM HANDRAP Rm 46yde 29,529
501 14(22-0 MISE (146) D Semoth 0-10-0
502 12-609 NARROWS BLAND (27) M Boat + 0-12
503 52120 FLOCHECK (18) J Durke J -0-6
504 00033 ROM'S PLOY (16) M Tompaire 4-9-6
505 4-3012 NORTHERM FLUET (17) (00) G Herwood 3-0-3
506 4-3012 NORTHERM FLUET (17) (00) G Herwood 3-0-3
506 4-3012 NORTHERM FLUET (17) (00) G Herwood 3-0-3
506 4-2018 M BOOWNERG (14) (85) A Annursi 5-1
506 4-2005 BLARAF (7) W Mut 3-0-3
510 30001 SHARAF (7) W Mut 3-0-3
511 124400 ENALLE CARTON (14) B Mathem 3-0-7
514 5123 E22A (10) (00) Y Tomme 5-6
514 512 E22A (10) (00) Y Tomme 5-7
516 3-00-00 DURSHAR (47) J Jenking 7-7-18
516 3-00-00 DURSHAR (47) J Jenking 7-7-18 15* -1 Falry inydoci nd Pisto **Marine** n21, (36). m41, (36). n41 (m2). TOP FORM TIPS: Pa sheek 8, Hurtham Float 7, Izza 6 1986: Meant To De 5 # 1 J Shiel 10-1 (Lady Mercian) 12 cm etilege 8-2 Horlinem Flact, 6-1 Harbour Island, 7-1 bzg, Placheck, 16-1 Bab's Ploy, Mr Browning, Raffer Souther, 12-1 Plac Creek, 14-1 Sep Freedom tm, Go-PORM GUERE - NORTHARENA FLEETS Prominent, cimaed woner over 21 out, ran on, nk 2nd behind Fujiyama Crest, with Public CREEK & FLOCHECK well bin (Alacci 2ndig), Cd-Fint, NAMEDOR: ISLAND: Lad 141 out to 31 out, weakared over 11 out, 51 7th bind Great Eastay (Goodwood 2m, sac-rm IZZA: Headupy over 55 out, no closer run, hegt on finel herizag, 20 Int to Besumont, with 308'S PLOY (gav The 17 eway 6th (Chenter 2m, Gol) III BRICHIMING Lost 77 out to 25 out, escalated final buricag, 5th, placed din bahard Ocean Partificiansion IIII BRICHIMING Lost 77 out to 25 out, escalated final buricag, 5th, placed din bahard Ocean Partificiansion norm, uprenili, RAFTELE ROOSTER: Headway 21 cost, every chanta incide last, ran on, 12 3rd banked Weich Mill (Hayo 1266, Gd): 4.45 MAYFLOWER APPRENTICES' CONDITIONS STAKES 1= C4,187 4.5 HAYFLOWER APPREZIFICES CONDITIONS STALES (1) INVESS IMAGE (2010) D Chapped 3-0-1 SIZED INSSAMA UNERG (133) GR Anhows 3-6-1 INCO SALEAD (2010) D B MANDOL 3-6-1 INCO SALEAD (2010) D B MANDOL 3-6-1 PRINCE BARAMA (137) A DAnis 5-6-12 INCO SALEADDO (2010) DEI MARTH 5-6-14 INCO SALEADDO (2010) DEI MARTH 5-6-4 INCO SALEADDO (2010) DEI MARTH Almee Cook (0) 14 612 613 614 TOP PORIN TIPIN Renator Music S, Mari 7, Kines Witness & 1995: King Of Tunos 3 8 7 P P Murphy 33-1 (J J Steelan) & rea Hotting: 7-9 Kings Witness. 4-1 Prince Babar, 9-9 Russian Music, 5-1 Mari, 6-1 Van Gurp. 10-1 Steve Faste, 12-1 Rivers Magic, 25-1 Microw

FORM GLIEDE - KINGS WITHERE Ridden 21 cut, westerned over 21 cut, last of 6, 12 behind Wall Street Politic utilizes - names terminent, led bidely over 11 cot, one pace, 41 3rd bettind Decomined Hero, with BURGERAM BUSEC, Annips provinent, led bidely over 11 cot, one pace, 41 3rd bettind Decomined Hero, with PRINCE BABAH turber 41 away 90 (Acces 17, 60-Fm). BARE Headway over 11 cot, rever nearer, 51 6th bind Patricely (Acces 170, 6d-Fm). VAN OUTPE Ellevi over 31 cot, hung 1st, rever dangerous, 341 last of 8 behind Kammiana (Doncaster 170,

25FPD) SHOW FATTIN Racad lar side, nover dangerow, 22 bird Claice Fox (Nermarket (m1), Gd-Fm). Show FATTIN Racad all victors over 11 pdf, shared an strengty, upo by 11 iron Saleemah (Heydeck 17, Gd

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TOP FORM TIPE

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 223 LEAR DANCER (16) (RP) Miss M Rowland 5-10-12

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 U/- WINDER KEY (753) J Jendon E-10-12

 U/- WINDER KEY (753) J Jendon E-10-12

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 00000- THE LADE (153) G Hobbard 4-10-11

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1998s Goldon Hogert & 10 & L Wyor 9-2 (E J Ahten) 7 rat letillege 7-4 Jonwem, 7-2 Haugitson Lad, 4-1 Palace Of Gold, 5-1 Maryshill Gold, 5-1 Ambor Holly, 1 Indying Kale

3.30 CITY OF CARLISLE RANDICAP CHASE 2 04,004

1995: Wr Wassicsck 10 11 11 L Wyer 11-4 (Mrs M Novaley) 5 cm

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1995: Chashelet's Girger 7 11 4 D Parter 4-1 (W B Timing) 4 ras

Inttillage 9-4 Steadlasi Ellire, 7-2 Bolarrey Girl, 4-1 Nonica, 5-1 Latwan, 6-1 Vieli Appointed. 7-1 Latv

4.35 BLACKWELL HANDICAP CRAEE 3- ELASS

- 12

1965: Registeries 10 11 16 B Starry Brows (C Parker) & ren

Bettings 6-4 Mage: Blaces, 11-4 Kushbaloo, 7-2 Dark Oxk, 6-1 Go Silly, 8-1 Supposin.

5.10 TARM CRAO STANDARD MI PLAT RACE 20 11 C1,640

1	41- HORTHEINE FUSILIER (168) J Jelinson 4-17-10
2	LOOK SHARPE P Begument 5-11-4 B Gratten (7)
	() THE KATTER (20) / Bries 4-1-3
4	A BEST FREEDO (20) / Cartle 4-10-12 and an an an annual Michael Breantes (5)
6	JED ADDEY R Shiels 4-10-12
	0 JOES BIT OF GOLD (30) T Culture 4-10-12
7	3 LINDAJANE (7) Miss Z Green 4-10-12
(Territor)	

1905: Direct Numbe 4 11 7 Mr C Banner 2-1 (J H Johnson) 6 rgn Betling: Evens Northern Pupiler, 3-1 (Jindylane, 6-1 Look Starpe, 7-1 Beat Friend, 20-3 The Kather, Jon's BL (J' Spit, Jad Abbey.

Blinkered for the first time today: ASCOT 3.40 Oneknight
 With You, Manikato. HUNTINGDON 2.10 Lear Dancer.

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Results -	Tepase (7-1) 17 ran 4, nk, 1%, (A Hannon) T.	C1.40; C1 00; C2.20; Dual F: C1.70; C3F; C3.29;	CSF: £29.29. NR: Chapel of Bernet (8-1
	17.90, 22.00, 25.10, 21.40, 22.20, Df. 2137.40,	3,40; (Zen 6/ Ch): 1, BIT OF A TOUCH, J	Rule 4 deduction 10o.
4.00(1m) 1, LOVENAS NO PHIDE, DINE	Tric: £135.70, CSF: F104.23 Tc: £660.79, 4.20 (1m efp 1, VOILA PREMIERE, R Mullion (11-2):-fav), 2, Drustmas Bod (20-1); 3, Karlenna (20-1); 4, Miad Militant (20-1), 11-2:1-fav Glove Forum, 22 rom, 24 CM	 a. No (2011) 5, Norther Bandharlan (7-4); 2, Cashain (25-1); 3, Norther Bandharlan (7-4); 2, Cashain (25-1), 13-8 toy Lake of Loughres. 4 ran. 15, dist. (R Fresh Tota: CAO. Dual F. 12, 50, CSF: 55, 71. 4. 10 (2011) 14, R Fresh Tota: CAO. Dual F. 12, 50, CSF: 55, 71. 4. 10 (2011) 14, R Fresh Tota: CAO. Dual F. 14, 10, 10, C2, 60, Dual F. 24 (0); CSF: 55, 84, 44, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10	 Rans 24 Million 101. 2.20 (288 26) Million 17, HOLV JOE, D Burchell (2-1): 2, Nationa Baske (25-1): 5 Barchell (2-1): 2, Nationa Baske (25-1): 5 Barch 19, S. (2000) Science 10, Science 11, Science 10, Science 10, Science 11, Science 10, Science 10, Science 11, Science 10, Science 11, Science 10, Science 11, Science 10, Science 1

NetSing: 2-1 Mantal Express, 9-2 Danny Gale, 5-1 The Lad, 7-1 Pegasus Bey, 10-1 Liver Dencer, 12-1 Emeri Million, 14-1 Minor Key, 25-1 Jari 2.45 JACK RANNLY MEMORIAL NOVICE CHASE 2m 4/ 110yds C1.561 • DJ JACK RAUPLY MEMORIAL NOVICE CHARE Im. 4f 110yds CB,5 • MANDRI NEDO (146) G Protonnoo 10-11-5 • MANDRI NEDO (146) G Protonnoo 10-11-5 • GE- FABULCUUS FRANCY (187) Ansa A Embiricas 8-10-12 • S- FABULCUUS FRANCY (187) Ansa A Embiricas 8-10-12 • F- FABULCUUS FRANCY (187) Ansa A Embiricas 8-10-12 • F- FABULCUS FRANCY (187) Ansa A Embiricas 8-10-12 • F- FPUSO SAUTON BLADE (0) R Strange 8-10-12 • PHE- SPUSIAL (212) Mrt L Javest 8-10-10 • A SUBURA (212) Mrt L Javest 8-10-10 • CLOMATTINI LADY Mrs L Javest 8-10-10 • A Longthick Imb L Million (14.1 Excise 8-10-70-7) He A Cos (7)

Becklang 1-2 Japhib, 4-1 Isatellys, 8-1 Menor Aleso, 14-1 Fabulous Francy, 20-1 Saron Blade, Gionation Lody, 33-1 Sporting Franze, Island Brazaers

3.15 NUMEROUS DETERMINATIONAL COMPLEXES INCOME REPORT ON MILLION CO. 215 311324 GOME BY (4) (C) J Jenine 8-12-0 32216 BORN TO PLEASE (8) P Hobbs 4-10-8 34-522 ABLE PLAYER (16) K Drewry 9-10-5

letting: 4-6 Born To Please, 2-1 Gone By. 6-1 Able Player 5 m

3.50 HARTLEY'S JAN HANDICAP CRASE 2m 110yth 04,385

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- 13-8 Ramster, 7-2 Flance, 4-1 Fine Harvest, 8-2 Lowewetter, 7-1 Bally Person 5 20
- 4.25 AUSTRALIA HANDICAT HEREE De 110mm CL490
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4.55 CREAT BRITISH HANDICAP CHARLE IN 64,370

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- Netting: 5-4 Wise Approach, 11-4 Merline Dream, 7-2 Gépa Valu, 4-1 Change The Reign

5.30 HUTTINGOON BITTENEEDIATE OPEN NE PLAT BACE 21 110yds C1,768

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	A 6 JE O O'Neil 5-11-4	
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	21- SCOUNDREL (174) K Balley 5-11-4	C O'Charper
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	THERETECON G Hubbard 5-11-4	K Courts (2)
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	0- PACIFIST (160) A Foster 5-10-13	U Greece (7)
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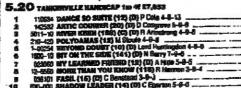
Betalog: 7-2 Scoundrei, 5-1 Berton Blade, 5-1 Ardenber, 7-1 Sydällure, 8-1 Catch The Wind, Arotic Flame, 10-1 Thermacon, 12-1 Captain Never, The Brewnaster 22 memory

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DECORATED Hero, Drained by John Gosden and one of Frankie Dettori's Ascot seven-timer, was rid-den by Thierry Jarnet to an easy victory over a mile at Longchamp yesterday.

15 100



14 SPORTS NEWS

Soccer

David Lacey says England won on Wednesday despite forgetting how to defend from the front and Gascoigne running out of steam

Hoddle - more revision required protection from

has adopted a reasoned, rational pproach to the task of taking England to the 1998 World Cup,

and has applied commonsense and logic to team and tactics. Despite this, England are top of their group with six points from two matches.

The truth is that logic and commonsense never did have much to do with England reaching major tournaments. The English game rarely permits the national coach to maintain a tactical thread when the players are getting together no more than once a month. He needs a lot of luck.

During Euro 96 Terry Vena-bles showed, as Bobby Robson and Alf Ramsey had before him, what can be achieved when the squad is together for more than a month. Hoddle will have this luxury only if he manages to take England to France in 30 months' time.

not affected by injury or loss hard enough to win the ball of form, England's chances of back. We've got to start bet-

itching for spice

LENN HODDLE | heading Group Two and has adopted a avoiding a play-off to qualify SHEA must be strong, especially if Italy, nervous 1-0 winners against Georgia, are no better at Wembley in February.

Not that such feelings per-sisted on Wednesday, when Shearer's two goals spared England's, and Hoddle's, agland U-21 blushes after Citko had given Poland the lead. The rest, for Total the most part, was a mess.

Forget systems. Many successful foreign sides play three at the back and two up with ter. We've got to work harder. the other five permuting be-We've got to play a bit more with our min tween. But no system works if the ball keeps being lost. Under Venables, England At this level, if space is cre-

learned to defend from the front and were less inclined ated and a pass goes awry, opponents will be quick to counter-attack through the to give the ball away. A spot of revision seems in order. same channels. England gave Poland more corridors than Team changes will always be debated and judged according to results. Leaving out Pallister looked a bad move the Treaty of Versailles, and Hoddle did not duck the issue. "We only wanted to play when we had the ball," he said, "and you can't do that at when Southgate allowed Baluszynski's undemanding centre to reach Citko for the So long as Alan Shearer is this level. We didn't work first goal, less so once the Manchester United centreback had replaced

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walked across his grave.

among defenders.

the inspirational

Aston Villa libero in the second half. Confronted by Warzycha, Pallister reacted Nowak, the Polish captain Ince was subdued and Gascoigne ran out of puff.

as if the ghost of Romario had Scoring spectacular goals for Rangers between rest peri-As a unit Wednesday's back ods is one thing but the pace three appeared to be suffering left him behind. Late on Gasfrom Babb's syndrome, a concoigne found himself needing dition once common to the Anfield area of Liverpool and only to outwit Zielinski to get a clear run at goal but he had neither the pace nor the stamleading to disorientation ina to take the sweeper on. Yet the real problems lay in

Forget about Gazza playing the inability of England's on until he is 35. His muchmidfield to cope with Poland's mended less are already old numerical superiority in the before their time and having middle third of the pitch and him on at the start in Georgia on November

risk. Ferdinand's qualities in John Huxles the air were apparent early on and his was the instinctive lay-off that set up Shearer's second goal. Yet the case for playing the Newcastle United up to financial proble pair at international level iains unproven. claring debts of £1 million esterday in seeking the pro-

Barmby was unlucky to be left out. He looks a better prospect than Ferdinand or Sheringham, and Hoddle may bring the Middlesbrough for ward back for Tbilisi. The England coach has

made it clear he will change the side according to circum stance, and so long as the team keeps winning this will be regarded as sound thinking. But, if games are lost or

home points dropped, the mood will darken. And the vency specialist Peter O'Hara appointed as administrator. Sun may start running head-lines about Glenn Fiddle. The Cougars have been hailed as one of the most progressive professional clubs and one director, Mike Smith Hoddle has asked the FA to move the bench to within

shouting distance of the was in no doubt about where touchline for the Italy game. "It was frustrating, I could the problems had started. "Just three days after we see what was happening from had paid out a club-record transfer fee of £134.000 for the where I was but you can't get Great Britain player Darryl Powell, we found out that we

We failed in that obective," said Smith, "and by ring-fencing our debts now EIGHLEY Cougars be came the second major club in a week to own we believe people will see we are acting responsibly." Both Smith and O'Hara said that, with the removal of the danger of the club being closed by a winding-up order, the directors would have time

tection of an administration order from a Leeds court. to construct a business niam to repay the debts. Keighley intend to kick of The First Division runnersup --- denied a place in Super League despite winning the the new season in 1997 and O'Hara added: "There is no old Second Division title in intention, at the moment, of us selling players on a mass 1995 - were granted a preliminary order just three days after Oldham Bears admitted serious liabilities of around 21.3 million. Keighley now want the Huddersfield insolhasis hecause we believe that would be a false economy."

 Cougars have an incentive to hang on to their best play-ers because a top-three finish in the First Division, together with the income from the eague's Sky TV deal with Rupert Murdoch, would earn them around £1.5 million.

Smith added: "No player will be made redundant. Even though having to take this action feels like we have failed after so much hard work, it comes as a relief St Helens have asked Super League for their Australian had not been given a place in the Super League. We had efforward Derek McVey to be fectively been cast out into allowed to stay in Britain next season. The second "The loss of promotion after winning the Second Div-ision together with the attenrower played here when he was left without a club after signing a Super League con-

dant fixtures against clubs tract in Sydney, only for the Australian Rugby League to have the new competition such as Bradford, Leeds and Wigan, as well as the promised sponsorship, cost us an nanned there. With that ban overturned

There was more disappoint-McVev is due to return to ment when Salford took the Australia but is keen to stay only promotion slot to Super with the Europe League after the first summer League champions. with the European Super

Cycling

the wilderness.

Boardman defies fearful descent

William Fotheringham n Lucano

was lucky. Whether I like it or not, I've been scarred by what happened last year. I HRIS BOARDMAN surwoke up this morning, looked vived all that the lowering sky could throw at out of the window, saw the weather and thought, 'Oh, no, him on a course which he prenot again' '

didn't affect the result, but I

Descent or no descent dicted correctly would be a nightmare" if it rained to Boardman could not match take silver behind Switzerthe pace set by Zülle, who is land's Alex Zolle in yesteron a roll after his victory 10 days ago in the Tour of Spain.

Martin Thorpe finds White Hart Lane fans orignization on the field as his pri-organisation on the field as his. But giving priority to those two things means fed up with Sugar and you've got mediocrity, because in order to be a candidate for honours in the Pre-OT so long ago Tottenham were on the brink of bankruptcy. miership you need flair and for that you need to invest Yesterday they announced an £11.9 million and it is against their natures

profit. One would think their supporters would vent a sigh instinct for knowing what people want that made his of relief that the nightmare was finally over; instead they reputation and fortune with Amstrad, it seems surprising are on the point of rebellion. he so misunderstands football and Tottenham in particular. An organisation calling itself the Tottenham Hotspur Action Group yesterday pub-But as Fynn says: 'He does lished a stinging attack on the chairman. Alan Sugar, pre-dicting decline as long as be not have that instinct in football because he is not a football man." As a result he is remained in control of the also destroying Tottenham in marketing terms, adds Fynn. club. "While he is in charge, The glory, glory brand that could have made them lots of the club will never attract blg-name signings, will lose the good players it has and

Perhaps most worrying

Tottenham both suit each other down to the ground. One puts effi-ciency off the field as his prito spend that sort of money." Given that it was Sugar's

money is no longer alive.



Rugby League

debts of £1m

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The Guardian Friday October 11 1996 **Cougars seek**



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As other clubs invest for the I the gradual alienation of the future. Alan Sugar is doing nothing and Spurs are being left behind," it said. The problem is tradition.

will not win the Premiership.

For where once the famous cockerel represented a strutting, proud, glamorous club that set transfer trends and playing styles, now it presides over a battery-farm outfit scratching around in the bottom half of the Premiership. Alex Fynn is closer to Spurs

than most - his book chronicling a season at Tottenham. Dream On, is out this week -and he is saddened by what he sees. "Tottenham used to be the team that bought the stars, played with swagger, they would be there or thereabouts in the table and if they were going to fail they would and merchandise purchases fail gloriously. That is not and is alienating the next gentrue any more and Alan Sugar and Gerry Francis don't understand what that loss means."

tidily run club where no part | Sugar's investment is now of the operation loses money. but, as Fynn says, normal business practice cannot al-ways be translated into running something as unpredict-able as a football club.

"To succeed these days you have to be prepared to have a l also given him a lot of plea deficit in the transfer market. You can cover that with income from elsewhere to main-tain a bottom-line profit, but okay for him. He is so envious you have to speculate to of Wimbledon who are able to

"Neither Sugar nor Francis understands this, or the Tottenham mentality. Both put organisation before flair because when you're dealing rity because that would give him a very profitable busi-erratic behavlour. So they ness, thank you."

Results

WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS: Parag Chile 1: Argentina 5. Vonezuela 2.

Soccer

Golf

SP:MA.

fans, who have grown tired of efficency and systems. They want their team's swagge back.

"This sort of Tottenham performance has a finite time to it," says Fynn. "The fans were prepared to accept effi-cient football instead of entertaining football because they needed respectability after the upheaval of Scholar and Venables. Francis gave them that. But that time has now ended. They are bored at White Hart Lane."

The Action Group agrees and warns: "Alan Sugar's thinking is flawed because he is giving the fans no good reason to continue investing in the club in terms of tickets eration of fans." Fynn says Sugar is happy to run a club that just

bumbles along because, •"Tt What it means to Sugar is a makes you a lot of money. worth four times what he paid in. So what does he have to take any risks for? "Tm not saying he is an

asset stripper but as a busi-nessman his motive is to make money. The club has sure and status which he didn't earn in business. But do it without having to pan-

rt 57 at P Hedblom 70; R Russell 69 las P Sjoland 58, C Nonigomerie 69 kat k Sandella 66(.

J Samidetta 66/ Group tirres South Africa 2, Canada 1 (W Westner 68 bt A Todd 77: 2 Ris 86 bt A Gibson 73, R Grosen 75 lost to J Rustledge 66); Jerland 2, While N to J Rustledge 66); Jerland 2, While N to J Rustledge 50 ht Mouland 70: P Wolfahay 68 bt P Afreck 70: P Harrisotten 70 bt P Price 74).

der to fans, without having to invest large amounts of money, and he would be happy with mid-table mediocout an opposition at the Ka-driorg Stadium and, in that event, the likelihood is that

Back to basics . . . Roud Gullit, still to appear for Chelsea this season, gets into the swing of things in a friendly against a young Nottingham Forest side at Stamford Bridge yesterday. The player-manager played the first half as his side won 3–1 FRAM BADON

Smith drops Fifa put McAllister on three-day standby

Patrick Glenn

ARY MCALLISTER's eli Ggibility for Scotland's next World Cup qualifying match will remain in doubt until three days before Sweden are due to play at Ibrox on November 10. The manager Craig Brown's national squad cap-

(Arg); D Williams; M Weich: J McHenry, M Wills, D A. Jonec, 72: S Ballesteros (Sp.); M James: S Field; D Lynnr B Marchbank, J Rozadilla (Sp), D J Russell, G Chaimers (Aus), G Emerson, G Orr; N Fasth (Swe); F Tarmisud (Fr); J Hawsworth, D Carter, J Sota (Sp): C Cewaer (Fr), S Henderson, 73 (J Garzá (Sp): C Pret Sb); C Sumeon (Sp); F Cea (Sp): C Pret Sb); C Sumeon (Sp); F Cea (Sp): A Pret (Sp); C Sumeon (Sp); F Cea (Sp): A Pret (Sp); C Sumeon (Sp); F Cea (Sp): A Pret (Sp); C Sumeon (Sp); F Cea (Sp); A Campbell (M2); J Salgado (Nari, F Howley; O Selitarg (Bare); A Ban-nett; P Baker; M Campbell (M2); J Salgado (Sp), M Momisa (Sp); T Benzen (Swe); A Ban-nett; P Baker; M Campbell (M2); J Salgado (Sp), M Momisa (Sp); T Bossen (Se); A Ban-nett; P Baker; M Campbell (M2); J Salgado (So), S Timing (Dea); D Cooper, A Haglund (Swo), D Rocha, M Campbell, M2); J Salgado (Sm); J B D Smyth, M Parco (Sp); T M Willson; M Haltberg (Swe), T & Malles, Sthir R Coles, J Pinero (Sp); I Gervas (Sp); R Willson; M Haltberg (Swe), T & Balles (Sp); J Bickerton J Alorso (Sp); T Sponcet A Labore (Fr), M Anglert (Swe); P Solding (Sp); J Storeton, M Luborso (Sp); T Sponcet A Labore (Fr), M Anglert (Swe); P Coling (Sp); J Storeton J Alorso (Sp); T D D Fisher, Sponcet A Labore (Fr), M Anglert (Swe); P D Coling T B E Giraud (Fr), C Halt, F Amah and (Sp); Spin (Spin); P Lyons, M Moreno (Sp); T D D Fisher, C Casselfs, A Sorensen (Den) B0 G Clarz, J-M Carriles (Sp; B1 1 Felm (Sp); B2 K

assels, A Sorensen (Den) 80 G Clark -M Carriles (Sp; 81 1 Feliu (Sp), 82 /

Ň

Tennis

McAllister situation. We will leave everything to Fifa." tain was due to serve a onematch suspension in Estonia on Wednesday, but Fifa will Brown plans to include McAllister in his next squad, not make a decision on the "phantom" game in Tallinn until their organising comwhich must be selected and announced ahead of the Fifa meeting. If McAllister has to sit out the Sweden game mittee meets on November 7. It is anticipated that the Scots will be awarded a 3-0 "victory" after going through widely regarded as a pivotal fixture in Group Four - he will still be asked by Brown to the motions of kicking of with join his colleagues during their preparations because of

his encouraging influence.

ATP CA TROPHY (Vienna), Second rownch Y Rationilism (Rus) bt O Campor-one (B) 6-4, 6-3: A Bestech (Fr) bt D Vacei (Cz) 6-4 3-6, 6-3, d Stementatic (Nebil) bt T Engvisi (Swa) 7-6, 7-5, 8 86-berg (Swa) bt T Muster (Aut) 6-4, 6-7, 7-5,

AMERICAN LEAGUE New York 5. Ball

AMERGUAN LEARNING New TOT 3. Desp-more 4 (New York load series 1-0) MATIONAL LEAGUE: Afanla 4, 5/ Louis 2 (Atlania lead series 1-0)

Northing Bears &: Crystal Palace 67.

HOMANCH ASSURANCE OPEN (MML Round 8: V Thachiev (Kazi K. I Nowlov (Rud), J Hodgson I, K Arkell C. J Emms 0, A Baburn (Iren 1: G Buckley & J Hector (Sweil K. D Norwood 0, A Ledger 1, M Hobden 0, B Kristensen (Dan) 1: S Sahu (Ind) 1. L Golshtein (Isr) C. A Blees (Neth) 0, H Hurt I Lessfers Thachiev, Hodgson, Baburn, Lodger, Kristensen 4%; Novikov, Arkeil Buckley Sahu Hurt 4.

WORLD CUP (Cagliari, II): Prelimitar round: Pisces 5-0: Wales 1, Raly 2: Swi zertand 3, Kenya 1, Semi-finalar Canad 6, Poland 5, Nrw Zealand 3, Ircland 1.

WORLD ROAD RACE CHAMPIONSHIP (Logano, Switz), inclividual time trial (40,4m) 1, A Zoolle (Switz) 44min 12ee; 2, C Boardman (GB) al 38sec; 3, T Ro-minger (Switz) 41: 4, D Nardelle (1) 1.01; 5, A Peron (II) 1.34: 6, U Peschel (Ger) 1.36; 7,

ctor. Sah

Baseball

Basketball

Chess

Arkell, Bucklov

Hockey

Cycling

Coventry's midfielder will be Sweden's defeat by Austria in Stockholm on Wednesday deemed to have served his ban. has elevated the Scots, who Jim Farry, the SFA chief executive, emphasised yesterdrew their opening match in day that his association will Vienna last month and then abide by the world governing body's decision. "The settlewon 2-0 in Latvia on Saturday to marginal group favourites. "But whether or not we are awarded the points from the ment of other side issues aris ing from the situation in Tallin will flow naturally from their conclusions," he said, Estonia affair, it will not af-fect the way we approach "and that would include the Sweden: It is a match we must win," said Brown. The awarding of three points by Fifa would put Scotland on top of Group Four, with seven points from three games. Meanwhile, the Estonian FA estimate that the non-match

will cost them almost £160,000 in lost television revenue. ticket refunds, security costs and extra floodlighting. Fifa have been informed of the "material damage" by their secretary Ainar Lettanen.

NHL: Detroit 2, Edmonton 0, Montraal Los Angoles 3, OtLiwa 3, NY Islanders (ot); Ciwcago 0, Anaheim 2, Calgary 1, Louid 2, Monteau 1, Status D.

QATAR INTERNATIONAL Plant (Pak) br R Eyles (Aus) 15-10, 15-1 15-10

MATIONWIDE LEAGUES Mest DM Norwich v Joswich Second DM Bristol C v York. UEPA U-18 CHAMPHONISHIP Q FAIR NATIONAL LEAGUE Provide Name Determine View Provide

(GB) 5.26.

Squash

Ice Hockey

Shenton (Eng) 9-1. 9-0. M Bell (Aus) 9-3, 9-

Fixtures

7 45 uniess sta

Soccer

the deep end Don Beat

McGrath in at

PAUL McGRATH is plunged straight into the Derby County side at home to Newcastle tomorrow after being given a chance by the manager Jim the silver medal. Smith to revive his career

at the Basebail Ground. The 36-year-old Republic of Ireland central defender has signed a contract until the end of the season and his move from Aston Villa is expected to cost Derby up to £200,000, depending on appearances. The former Manchester

United player reckons he has "two years left in him" and Smith believes his ex-perience will be invaluable. The Middlesbrough striker John Hendrie was C Dominguez (Sp) 1.52; 8, A Olano (Sp) 1.55; 9, Y Ekimov (Rus) 2.22, 10, N Stephens (Aus) 2.34 Alaos 24, C Newton yesterday completing a £250,000 move to Barnsley. He was expected to sign a three-year contract after agreeing terms with the

manager Danny Wilson on Wednesday. The Swindon Town man-Wedn ager Steve McMahon has appointed his former Ever-

15-10 WOREN'S WORLD OPEN (Petaling Jays Mai) Third reacts in Reaction and the ton team-mate Mike Walsh as his new No. 2. Walsh has been managing Barrow after taking Bury to three bit to their (ALS) \sim 3, \sim 3, \sim 5, \sim 6, \sim 6 acceleration (Eng) bit (Nitch (SA) > 3, > 5, < 9, < 5 Solitome (Ger) bit L Marsh (NC) (0–8, \sim 5) > 5, 7, > 3, > 2: C Owners (Aux) bit (Chay man (Eng) 9–4, > 1, > 5, = 1, > 4 Windjaht (Eng) bit F Genvers (Eng) 6–9, > 2 > 4, > 0, \leq 8 Hormser (Eng) bit R Coope (Aus) 5 9–6, 4–8, 10–9, > 4 play-offs in five years.

play-offs in tive years. Stoke City must pay Tot-tenham £250,000 for the Northern Ireland interna-tional Gerard McMahon, plus an extra £100,000 if he makes 40 appearances, a Football League tribunal

ordered yesterday. The Juventus midfielder Antonio Conte injured a knee playing for Italy on Wednesday and looks likely to miss the Champi-ons League clash with Mannior Div-

chester United at Old Trafford on November 20.

day's world time-trial championship. Since July, when he finished

He was the fastest of the 40 starters at every timing point and romped over the two the Tour de France for the first climbs on the 25-mile course time, the Wirral cyclist has also taken bronze in the Olymthen dropped down through the town with remarkable pic time trial in Atlanta and gold in the world track-pursuit aplomb for a man regarded as championship as well as set-ting the one-hour distance reaccident-prone. His 40-second margin over

cord, cycling's blue riband. Boardman left no doubt about In three weeks' time Boarda victory which reinforced man will undergo an operathe impression he made in tion to remove two two-inch pins which hold together bones in his left ankle; the Spain: after several years of under-achievement Zülle is finally living up to his early promise. Appropriately, a jeweller in Lugano's shopping last physical legacy of his crash at 50 mph on a raincaked descent in the opening area is displaying promitime-trial stage of last year's nently watches endorsed by Tour de France. the contre la montre winner.

However, Boardman admits For all the cliches about he will have to work over the winter on the mental scars Swiss stoicism, Zille is wellknown for relying as much on from that accident, the memonervous as physical energy, and tears rolled down his ries of which came close to relegating him to the bronzecheeks as the Swiss national medal position yesterday. At the top of the final climb. anthem was played during the medal ceremony. "I am overjoyed," he said. "Being in my home country, this is ne was 15 seconds faster than Tony Rominger, the only other rider in contention. But more important to me than after negotiating traffic isany other fitle '

lands, underpasses, drain cov-ers and pedestrian crossings on the slithery, hairpin de-scent to the lakeside he came While Zülle and Rominger will look for more Swiss suc cess in Sunday's elite roadrace title, Boardman's 1996 within two seconds of losing season effectively came to an end yesterday. He will ride a

"It was down to fear," he couple of exhibition events before his operation early said afterwards. "It was a terrible descent. I'm happy it next month.

Sailing

Sport in brief

..............................

Tennis

Mike Golding's Group 4 held the overall lead in 20- to 25-knot north-easterly winds as the BT Global Challenge flest Greg Rusedski produced the fastest serve ever recorded headed towards the Cape Verde Islands, writes Bob Fisher. Ocean Rover stopped almost dead from 11 knots when she hit the body of a yesterday when he reached the quarter-finals of the Beijing Open. Serving at match-point in a 6-7, 7-6, 6-1 victory over France's Jean-Philippe Fleurian, the British No.2 fired down his 20th ace at 139.8mph -- 2.8mph faster

than the previous record that he held jointly with Austra-lia's Mark Philippoussis.

Rugby Union

be reviewed annually.

Skiing

The Scots finally entered the professional era with the an-nouncement that 36 players have signed contracts with the SRU. Several top players, however, have not joined up, including Scott Hastings, Ken Logan and Duncan Hodge

Three of the 12 events in the The retainers are worth £50,000, £30,000 and £20,000, to British Touring Car Championship will be televised live by the BBC next year: they are Donington Park (June 15), Knockhili (August 3) and Brands Hatch (September 7). Great Britain has been awarded the 1998 European Cup finals for Alpine skiing at

Squash

the Nevis Range and Calm-gorm, writes John Samuel. "It will be an outstanding incen-Jansher Khan of Pakistan defeated Australia's Rodney Eyles 15-10, 15-7, 13-15, 15-10 to win tive for the Winter Olympics," said Mike Jardine, the British his fifth straight Gatar International, the third time he has federation's chief executive. defeated Eyles in the final

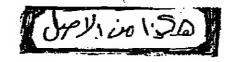
66): treatmed 2, Wales 1 (D Clarke 71 lost to Bill Moutanet 70; P Hockbley 66 bt P Affect 70; P Harrington 70 bt P Price 74, Group feer Anathenia 2, Japanes 1 (W Herty 7: lost to N Gradul 67, 3 Elithenia 60 bt K Taham 74, 6 Norman 72; bt H Meshial 74); New Zeatuned 2, Germany 1 (G Walke 69 bt H-P Thut 69 at 22nd, G Turner 74 lost to T Genetic 71; P Nobile 60 bt 6 Struver 71). OKI #Ro-AMI (Madrid): Wirst-reamed accree (GB and Ira unisos stated) 66 P Unitur (50) 67 A Snerborne: M Martin (50), 68 J Quiran (50); S Luna (30); M Canbard (Swe); J Rivero (36); 69 J-M Canbard (Swe); J Rivero (36); 69 J-M Canbard (Swe); J Rivero (36); 69 J-M Canbard (Swe); T Bjorn (Den), M Machen-zho, D Hogins; D Gillord; S Cagot I Pyman; J Haoggman (Swe), 70 S Webbier, Fi Bos-al; M Jonzon (Swe); P Mitchell; Y Pee-monte (S0); R Drummond; D A Russeti J Robson; A Beel; A Hunter, 71 T Kite (US; B Brand Im; K Enkason (Swo), A Cabrera **Rugby League** TOUR MATCHES: Lion Red Cup XIII 22 Great Britain 21. Auckland U-19 16, Grea ALFRED DUNHILL CUP (Sr Andrews Group ene: United States 2, Italy 1 (1 O'Mestre 63 bt C Roace 70; P Michelson 7 A Hunter, 71 T Kite (US) riksson (Swo), A Cabrera

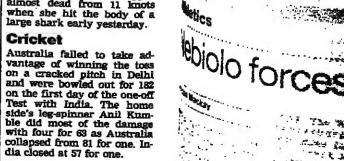
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Misserse 53 bt C Rooce 20; P Mickelson 72 strong C Examples 72 at 20th; 5 Sericker 5 bt S Grappasonni 75). Spalar O, Eng-end 3 it Gerrido 77 lost to L Meentweedd 6; M A Jimenez 71 lost to J Learnes 70; D orregio 75 lost to a Lace 69) rouge two Zienbebwe 2, india 1 it lankatty 70 bt G Ginai 73; N Price 70 bt J Lankatty 70 bt G Ginai 73; N Price 70 bt J

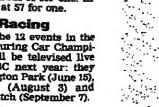


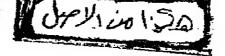
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WILLIAMS ORIVER CLOSES MIND TO GHOSTS FROM PAST



Hunt.,.devil-may-care

Alan Henry finds the British driver in resolute mood in Japan, where one of the great grand prix upsets occurred 20 years ago



On the waterfront . . . the outsider James Hunt sets the pace in the final race of 1976 on the track at Mount Fuji where he won the world title by one point

Hill ready to go for broke at Suzuka

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Golf

AMON HILL ap-proached the most important weekend of his professional championship and the Cana | and Jackle Stewart respec-dian's own chances of adding | tively, hit trouble. life by edging his Williams-Renault out on to the circuit yesterday in practice for the **Japanese Grand Prix**. He may have been calm on the surface but inwardly he admitted to wrestling with a

dilemma over his strategy, namely how to balance a tactical approach to Sunday's race with his natural desire to win the event outright. His immediate priority, he said, would be to attack hard in qualifying to grab pole po-sition and then worry about his approach to the season's decider after that.

Hill needs only one point to make sure of the title and thereby secure his place in history as the first son of a world champion to take the crown. The late father of his

team-mate Jacques Ville-

neuve, brilliant driver though Gilles was, never won the

the Formula One series to last year's IndyCar triumph are hanging by a thread. If any-one but Villeneuve wins the race, Hill will step out of the shadow of his father Graham and be crowned champion. "I certainly have to take into we will see what happens." Suzuka has hosted both the account the fact that winning best and worst races of Hill's

the championship is para-mount," he said yesterday. "So career. Two years ago on a near-flooded track his Wilthere is a little bit of weighing liams beat Michael Schuup to be done in my mind as to macher's Benetton in a straight fight, ensuring that the 1994 championship went to the wire in Adelaide. Last year he ended an erratic race whether I want to take more risk with a view to winning the race, or to ensure that I finish in the points in order to win the championship. by embedding his Williams in

a gravel trap as the German surged to victory. "But I'm always nervous about taking a cautious approach because sometimes For the moment Hill is that can throw up unexpected difficulties.

For the moment Hill is geared up only for Sunday. "I haven't had any sleepless nights thinking about what's at stake," he said. "I expect there will be a lot said after Sunday but I hear that most Hill may be comforted by the fact that Graham clinched both his titles, in 1962 and 1968, with wins in the final race. On both occasions Hill was fortunate of it will just say that Damon that his key rivals, Jim Clark | Hill is world champion."

The day Hunt rained Yesterday Villeneuve adon the favourite's mitted his own hopes were "slim" but added: "I really

parade by pipping have nothing to lose. I'll go out and give it my best shot to Lauda at the post try and win the race and then

> JACQUES Villeneuve will be keeping a weather eye on the track on Sunday as he prepares to do battle with Damon Hill, bearing in mind that 20 years ago Japan handed a rain check to another famous outsider who duly took the title on the final day of the season. James Hunt had only a slim chance of the champi-onship when he entered the final round at Mount Fuji He was three points behind Ferrari's Niki Lauda and the event was plunged into chaos when the drivers pro-tested that the rain-lashed track was too dangerous.

Hunt was in a compara-ble position to the one Villeneuve finds himself in this weekend. The Englishman had had to make up a 47-point deficit during the second half of 1976 and had never led the points table. Hunt led commandingly

Then, with five laps left, his McLaren came scuffing into the pits with the left front tyre deflated. Less than half a minute later Hunt Ferrari crashed in flames

manager, holding up three fingers. "You've done it James." he shouted. "You're third. You're world champion." Those four points were enough to gain Hunt the Formula One ing lap he pulled quietly into the pits. crown by a single point ahead of his friend Lauda. Ferrari's chief engineer

Rugby Union

Green light for tactical substitutions

SPORTS NEWS 15

The IB has asked the English and Welsh unions to respond within 21 days.

UGBY union is to fol-low the example of soc-loer and rugby league by allowing tactical substitu-"Once the unions have replied we will set a date for a hearing — assuming that a hearing is necessary — and ask what evidence and with tions. At present only injured players can be replaced durnesses the unions wish to present," said Pugh. The IB ing a game but from Novemrefuses to name the clubs but it is thought that the Irish ber 4 no such reason will be The International Board

complaints refer to several English clubs and the Canaagreed to this at its meeting in Rome this week, and the dian protests to a Welsh side. changes will apply to interna-tional and senior club matches in both hemispheres. Harlequins have two Irish internationals, Jim Staples and Keith Wood, and Sara-The IB has also ruled that the number of replacements cens have the Wallace brothers Richard and Paul. The Welsh club is thought to due to injury can increase from four to six. A total of five players can take the field as be Bridgend, who have three Canadian internationals on their books, Gareth Row-lands, Chris Michaluk and substitutes but only two of them may be front-row forwards. In a standard squad of John Graf. 21 there must be two players on the bench who can play in the front row.

"By allowing tactical substitutes an opportunity is pro-vided to enhance team performance," said the IB chairman Vernon Pugh. "We also believe this decision makes the game more honest in that it addresses concerns about players feigning injury." He added: "We will still have no more than six players on the bench for international

London Irish recently refused to release four of their international players to Irish provinces for the Heineken Cup, though the four look set to defy the club and represent their respective prov-inces after all. Victor Costello is named in the Leinster team against Llanelli on Saturday. Jeremy Davidson and David Humphreys are on the Ulster team sheet and Gabriel Fulcher is picked for Munster.

matches, of whom two still The relevant regulation must be front-row forwards. "An individual who has states: "A union has first and last call upon the availability been substituted will not be able to resume as a replaceof a player for selection and appearance for a national rep-resentative team or national ment in the event of injury except in the case of a bleed squad. ing wound."

"No union association, rugby body or club, whether Two complaints have been made to the International Board about British clubs by contract or otherwise, may inhibit, prevent or render unrefusing to release star playavailable any player from selection, attendance and ap-pearance in a national repreers. The Irish and Canadian rugby unions have both accused British clubs of sentative team or national breaking IB rules by not mak-ing some of their internasquad — including training sessions - and any player must be released upon request by his union." tional players available for their countries.

Sale to play at Old Trafford

Sale have made a provi-sional 10-year agreement next September. with Lancashire County Sale members have not yet Cricket Club that will allow been consulted about the the Cheshire side to stage rugby union matches at Old ground-sharing proposal but it is understood that training Trafford, writes Robert sessions will be held and club Armstrong.

This season three Courage

games will continue to be played at Heywood Road as usual.

League matches — against Bath, Saracens and North-Sale own the freehold of ampton — will be played their ground as well as a there and, provided no seritraining pitch which is worth ous problems arise, the longaround £8 million.

Hunt went to Japan with a devil-may-care insouciance, having decided that only a miracle could win him the title. That miracle came in the form of Lauda's startling candour. The Austrian driver had battled back after receiving the last rites only three months before when his

on the opening lap of the German Grand Prix. leading to a delay of 90 min-utes before the start.

rejoined in fifth place, un certain where he was in the race order. Mario Andretti's Lotus won, ahead of Pat rick Depailler's Tyrrell with Hunt not knowing where he had finished. Then he saw Teddy Mayer, the McLaren team

At Mount Fuji, reeling under Hunt's relentless pressure in the second half of the season, his nerve cracked on the flooded surface. At the end of the open-

suggested telling the press that it was engine trouble. "No way," said Lauda. "It's just total bloody stupidity out there. I've chosen to stop and I'll stand by that decision."

Injured Allenby to claim bonus in one-putt farce

Resigned to ending his fairy-tale European season on a note of absur-boying that, in the extra-season on a note of absur-boying that, in the extra-season on a note of absur-boying that, in the extra-season on a note of absur-the season on a note of absur-boying that, in the extra-season on a note of absur-the season on a note of absur-boying that, in the extra-season on a note of absur-the season on a note of absur-t dity by walking on to the Ist tee at the Volvo Mas-ters, tapping the ball with his putter and walking off with up to £73,000.

Such a pantomime seems likely because the Austra-lian, who recently frac-tured his breasthone in a elite Valderrama event at the end of the month to

qualify for his bonus for finishing high in the Euro-pean Order of Merit.

Never mind that he will be keeping out some more able-bodied if lower-ranked player from the season-ending money-spinner; rules are rules. "I don't think it's good

for golf if someone prevents someone else from playing, then pulls out after one shot," said his manager shot," said his manager Andrew Ramsey. "But it's worth a lot of money. I Allenby... pain but gain

Sailing

میں جونی ہوتا ہے۔ موجود شدہ ہوتا ہے۔ موجود شدہ ہوتا ہے۔

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Cricket

car crash, must show at the finish third in the Order

one shot — it may be with his putter as he's not fit to swing a club - that's what ordinary circumstances, he'll do." John Paramor, the Tour's Robert would be allowed to miss the event and still be director of operations, said: "We had the same thing in eligible for the bonus pool. 'But the rules are in black and white, and Ken 1991 with Ian Woosnam. He

had a chronic back prob-lem, didn't play at Valder-rama and didn't collect his

precedents. If Robert hits one shot, then withdraws, it would be rather sad but it's just one of those things. £53,000 extra if he drops to fourth or £39,000 for fifth

be awarded.

to make tee in his sleep Michael Britten In Madrid

Torrance fails

SAM TORRANCE contrib-buted another chapter to his catalogue of golf "acci-dents" when he was disqualified without hitting a shot in

the Oki Pro-Am here at La Moraleja yesterday. The Scot was ruled out when he failed to appear for his scheduled first round

partnering Manuel Balles-teros, elder brother of the "It's difficult to break Ryder Cup captain. Instead of being on the 1st tee of the No.1 course at 9.20am Tor-

rance was still in bed. Two hours earlier Torrance it's just one of those things. It's happened before." Allenby has won three times in Europe this year, earning £456,303. Costan-tino Rocca, Lee Westwood and Andrew Coltart can all money for the top 15, Al-lenby wonld still collect *If wo hours earlier Torrance had answered a wake-up call courtesy car. But, having travelled to Spain from an in-vitation event in Korea last week, he promptly nodded off again and slept soundly until phoned by tournament offi-cials to tell him he had been disqualified. *If he had arrived within disqualified. "If he had arrived within

five minutes of his allotted start he would merely have suffered a two-stroke penalty but, when he did not appear at all, we had no option but to

rule him out completely, said the tournament director Michael Stewart. The accident-prone Tor-rance, who has suffered a va-

riety of foot injuries and sleep-walking collisions in recent years, confessed: "This time I have no excuse whatso-ever. I wasn't jet-lagged. I just IAAF. The World Cup in Jo-hannesburg will end on September 13, the day before the track-and-field pro-the track-and-field prooveralept. It has happened to me before because I am a very

the track-and-field pro-gramme was due to start at the Commonwealth Games. oka on September 13 when heavy sleeper." The 43-year-old Scot, in every Ryder Cup since 1981, Any athlete who missed South Africa to compete in lion) in total prize-money will might well have struggled to match the flying start of the Spaniard Pedro Linhart (65) and the Madrid specialists Andrew Sherborne and Miguel Martin, who both had 67. Linhart had six birdies and sank a nine-iron for an eagle two at the 5th. Sherborne, from Bristol, won the 1991 Madrid Open and the capital's 1992 Spanish Open but is not counting any Ryder Cup chickens yet. After the rival captains Tom Kite and Ballesteros had shot 71 and 72 respectively he said: "I am also thinking about the Ryder be allowed to take place indoor championships in that the media magnate wants Cup next year. I think I will to stage the event in the win- go down to Valderrama and watch it."

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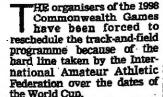


- provided he taps one ball in Spain.

Nebiolo forces Games delay

Athletics

Duncan Mackay



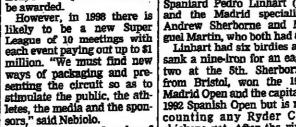
the World Cup. Primo Nebiolo, the presi-dent of the IAAF, told the World Calendar Conference in Dublin yesterday that the Communication for the Cames Feder-Molor Recti Commonwealth Games Feder-

> CGF's hand. 54¹⁰

within three days of any Paris next March. meeting organised by the He is also preparing drasti- ter of 1999-2000.

the Games faced suspension. Now the Commonwealth Games will begin on September 16. "I am extremely happy," said Nebiolo. "Our afhletes will travel on Mon-day, arrive in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday and on Wednes-day they will compete." Lumpur by two days. In fact rity of IAAF meetings. An Ted Turner, the founder of the IAAF had forced the even more far-reaching one is CNN. is planning a new Good Nebiolo has taken other

offering prize-money at all will Games for winter sports. Nebiolo is determined that world championships and The International Olympic in future no other event will | world cups, starting with the | Committee was yesterday told





16 Kinane role crucial in Oscar bid, page 13

Hill ready to go for broke, page 15

Sugar denies gaining at Spurs' expense

lan King

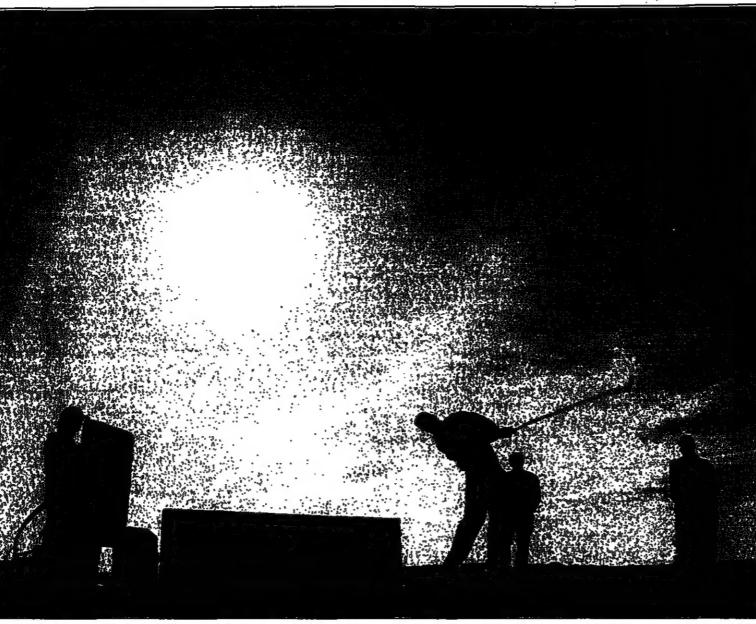
HE Tottenham chair man Alan Sugar yester-day angrily denied milking the club after announcing a controversial £7.3 million one-off write-down of player values in the accounts.

Sugar, who has seen the value of his 40 per cent stake in Spurs jump from £13 mil-lion to more than £35 million in the past year, said his main challenge was to make Totten ham "a great club again" and that he did not need to make any money from it.

As Tottenham anne full-year pre-tax profits of £11.9 million, against £5.4 million for the same period las year, Sugar defended the club's failure to sign any topclass players recently.

Sugar attacked spiralling transfer fees and said Tottenham had to act responsibly to shareholders and supporters, even if it meant ruling out buying players the club could not afford. He was "bewildered" by Alan Shearer's record transfer to Newcastle and said Tottenham would never spend such amounts on players, since it made no financial sense, however much silverware was won.

The fact of the matter is that, if Newcastle write down £15 million over five years, then if we believe what the papers say Shearer's wages are, it could be costing them 25.5 million a season. If you win the Champions League Fm told you'll get no more than 26 or 27 million. So, even if you win everything in sight, there's still no way you



SCOTS OUT OF LUCK ON OPENING DAY OF DUNHILL CUP

Driving ahead . . . but Jarmo Sandelin of Sweden, using a 54-inch driver, enjoyed a generous rub of the green in the closing stages of his deciding match against Scotland's Colin Montgomerie (below) PHOTOGRAPHS: DAVD CANNON STREETS MENDAV

O'Meara has St Andrews



SportsGuardian **Tories want** Coe time to run and run



Vincent Hanna

OURNEMOUTH is full of charming blue suits. They did not want to talk about sport. "John Major knows all about sport." said Daphne, who was next to me in the queue at the secu-rity hut, "we are all behind him on sport. The BBC pretends we are split but we're

She seized my arm: "Do you think it's hopeless?" "Politics," I said, "is a game of two halves." George from the East Midlands became animated: "Yes, if there's a penalty shoot-out, John Major will take the kicks. He'll pop the ball over the bar, don't you worry." "Good point," I said. "No, three points, old boy," beamed George, and how we

laughed. I asked them if they knew the Sports Minister and they said yes they did: it was stian Coe. I went to find him. Coe is not the Sports Min-ister; that is Iain Sproat, and I promise not to make up any more jokes about him. He has a difficult job. He has no budget and works for Virginia

cal reference to final furiongs and the breakers but this year somehow their hearts were not in it. Nor-were there any fringe. eetings about sport, u

Friday October 11 1996

von count the Why do a million or dinary people enjoy the sport of shooting? debate at the Trouville Hotel on Tuesday. It was a question that hung unanswered in the Dorset air until yesterday unchtime when Norman Lamont told us how he would win the next general election.

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"The tradition in our party," Coe said (sorry, did not say), "was to focus more on the arts than on sport. Perma nent secretaries tended to hang around Covent Garden Now because of John Major they know where Chelse play." "And because of David Mellor," I said, "they know what colour their strip is. I am not sure if Virginia

Bottomley knows but she could tell them where to get it washed. In her speech yesterday the saintly Heritage Secre tary said she would provide subsidized trips for OAPs to peritage sites.

Then. "I want to talk about sport," she said. "All those nuddy shirts and socks whirring in tens of thousands of vashing machines on Satur day evenings." She blamed th "half-baked, egalitarian bigots" of Labour who had tried to drive out competitiv sports. She promised to use Lottery money to fund athetes in training and pay for coaches. Then she sang a little song and banned a porn satellite channel.

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